

# STOURBRIDGE CHRONICLE



Thursday, May 1, 2014

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## Euro view

Ukip leader has a 'Black Country blast'  
See Page 5



## Legend

Town trail in steps of a football great  
See Page 6



## X-tra special

TV song hopefuls queue up to audition  
See Page 18



## £17,000 scheme to revamp stadium

DUDLEY'S main sports stadium will be refurbished in a £17,000 scheme to boost budding athletes and grass-roots sport in the borough.

Hundreds of people use the facilities at The Dell Stadium, in Pensnett, each week.

Members of Dudley and Stourbridge Harriers athletics club use the stadium, in Bryce Road, for training and meetings while Dudley Town football club plays home games at the ground.

### Upgrading

Officials have revealed an investment plan to keep the facilities up-to-date so that they meet standards for the future.

Thousands of pounds will be spent on upgrading the 400m athletics track at the stadium which is used by up to 250 club members a week.

The renovation scheme will start in mid May and council officials have revealed that sections of the stadium will have to be closed while work gets under way.

Officials today advised that the track and long jump areas will have to be closed from May 15 to June 1 to allow for the improvements to take place. It is hoped that the track and the long jump area will fully reopen on June 2 for public sessions.

## Crashed car abandoned

THE driver of a car that crashed into a wall in Dudley fled the scene.

Fire crews were called to New Row Road at around 2am on Saturday morning.

Crew commander Nigel Hobby said when they arrived there was no one in the locked vehicle.

He added: "The car had hit a small road sign and went into the corner of a wall. We made sure there was no one in the car before making it safe."

# HELP-OUT PLEA TO VOLUNTEERS

Report by Lee Watton

**MANY more helpers are needed to boost Dudley Council for Voluntary Services as it takes on a bigger role in the community due to local authority cuts.**

DCVS is looking to take on another 60 people as it experiences a surge in demand as Dudley Council faces making savings of £34 million over the next three years.

Bosses said it stemmed from volunteer groups taking on venues such as community centres which in the past have been run and maintained by the council.

The service oversees the community organisations now looking after these buildings providing them with advice and support.

More social enterprises, organisations to tackle social problems and improve communities, are also being set up.

Alongside standard volunteers, the service is also looking for people who want to take on leading roles in voluntary organisations.

### Events

Two events will be taking place at its offices in Albion Street, Brierley Hill, on May 7 and 10 to find the volunteers needed.

And bosses said they were hoping to find 20 or 30 from each of the events to take on a volunteering role.

Spokesman Brendan McKeown said: "Due to the cuts in government funding to Dudley Council more services are now being outsourced."

"As a result the voluntary service has to pick things up a little bit. For example people are taking on things like community centres and more social enterprises are also being set up."

"More volunteers are needed to fill the gap. Alongside volunteers we also need people who want to help run and organise voluntary organisations – basically managers, trustees and board members."

"These posts would still be voluntary but are aimed towards people who want to get a real grip on an organisation."

"These posts are needed because of the council cuts but it is not all doom and gloom."

"It really is an opportunity for the voluntary sector and will make a real difference."

Mr McKeown added: "Ideally we would hope to get around 20 or 30 from each of the events."

To book a place, call Dale Pickin on (01384) 573381.

## Sir Trevor backs grass roots



England legend Sir Trevor Brooking seen at the opening of the new Kewford Eagles ground

A £1.1 million football centre at Wall Heath has been opened by Sir Trevor Brooking. The England and West Ham legend opened the new home to Kewford Eagles, one of the biggest grass roots clubs in the country.

The 11-pitch centre has been 12 years in the making and has been possible thanks to a £800,000 grant from the Football Foundation.

The club has more than 550 young foot-

ballers, boys, girls and disabled teams. Mr Brooking blew the whistle for the kick off of the first match on the new pitches.

He said: "I understand the importance of these facilities to a club like this."

He explained it was important that grass roots clubs around the country continued to flourish in the same way Kewford Eagles have since 1978 after two teams, from Kingwinford and Quarry Bank, joined forces.

## Etheridge hits out at 'vile' Lenny comment

A UKIP candidate has called a party colleague's comments about Lenny Henry 'vile and repulsive' and said the person who made them should publicly apologise to the popular comedian.

Bill Etheridge, standing for the party in the West Midlands at the European elections, denounced the comments made on social network site Twitter by London candidate William Henwood, saying Dudley-born Mr Henry should emigrate to a 'black country'.

The comments were seized upon by those who pointed out that as he was from the Black Country.

Mr Henwood, aged 66, was commenting on Mr Henry's calls for more people from ethnic minorities to be represented on TV.

Mr Etheridge, also UKIP's prospective parliamentary candidate for Dudley North, said: "I am enraged by the vile and repulsive comments made about Dudley's own Lenny Henry. I publicly call on him (Mr Henwood) to apologise, in lieu of that I wish to apologise myself to Mr Henry and all those, like myself, who were disgusted by the vile statements. UKIP is a non-racist, non-sectarian party."

Using Twitter, Mr Henry thanked people for supporting him.

Freeman — see page 3

## Man rescued from flat fire

A ELDERLY man had to be led to safety after smoke filled his flat in Dudley.

Fire crews were called after an automatic alarm alerted them to a flat at Rotary House on the Russells Hall estate.

Smoke filled the flat, in Middlepark Road, after the fire started in the kitchen area at around 6.20am on Monday.

Firefighters from Dudley rescued an 87-year-old man in a bedroom suffering from the effects of smoke.

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# Women golfer died after complications

A WOMAN who had an operation to relieve a trapped nerve and slipped disc in her back so she could take up golf again died as a result of rare complications in surgery, an inquest concluded.

Diane Weston, aged 73, of Windsor Road, Stourbridge, had spinal surgery at the West Midlands Hospital, Halesowen, on January 21. The procedure ran smoothly for

more than two hours and then Mrs Weston's blood pressure and carbon dioxide levels dropped rapidly.

The operation was stopped immediately and attempts were made to resuscitate Mrs Weston, a former civil servant.

The specialist anaesthetist and colleagues believed the most probable cause was an embolism, or blood clot, so gave Mrs Weston blood

thinning medication. Resuscitation proved unsuccessful.

A post-mortem later revealed she had experienced a massive haemorrhage in her abdominal cavity.

Dr Iqbal Dhesi, a consultant pathologist at Walsall Manor Hospital, said an artery had ruptured under pressure, perhaps during the operation.

Raj Rao, the anaesthetist, said

he could see no signs of internal bleeding before deciding to administer the blood thinning medication, which may have increased the bleeding. He said he had to decide between 'doing something or nothing'.

The medical cause of death was massive retroperitoneal intra-abdominal haemorrhage and bleeding during spinal surgery.

# Pilgrim's progress for new bishop

PREPARATIONS are under way to welcome the new Bishop of Dudley who will be walking and cycling 30 miles between special services this weekend.

The Rt Revd Graham Usher is guest of honour at two services marking the start of his new ministry.

On Saturday there will be a Eucharist service at St Thomas and St Luke Church (known as Top Church) in Dudley at 4pm. A number of dignitaries from the borough will attend including the Mayor and Mayoress of Dudley. Then on Sunday, Bishop Graham will be installed as a Canon of Worcester Cathedral at Evensong at 4pm.

Between the services Bishop Graham will be cycling and walking the 32 miles from Dudley to Worcester, before crossing the River Severn on the Cathedral ferry.

Bishop Graham said: "I hope that by cycling and walking to Worcester I will be able to undertake my own pilgrimage. This means taking in the landscapes at a slower pace, feeling the earth underfoot and seeing the changing industries, listening to the different sounds and praying for the different communities I pass

## Long service is piece of cake



Chairman John Edwards and chief executive Paula Clark with Nicola Bussey

HOSPITAL staff in Dudley who notched up more than 500 years of service have been honoured. The celebration shone the spotlight on workers who have reached key milestones in their years of service for Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, ranging from 15 to 40 years.

For the first time the ceremony also celebrated the long service of volunteers.

Twenty-five people from the trust, which runs Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley, were presented with a long service certifi-

cate and badge by chief executive Paula Clark and chairman John Edwards. They were treated to a celebratory tea and a slice of long service cake made for the event.

Recipient Pam Boucher, one of the trust's first volunteers to receive a Long Service Award, said that since becoming a volunteer in 1999 she has enjoyed every minute.

Nicola Bussey, who celebrated 40 years, said: "It's amazing to think that when I started out I used a typewriter and everything was paper based."

## CAMPAGNERS have made an official complaint over a council's conduct over a closure threatened care home.

New Bradley Hall care home, in Kingswinford, was earmarked to shut in a shake-up of adult social care in the borough.

After a public outcry with more than 5,000 people signing a petition to protest, council chiefs were forced to re-think the plans.

## A sporting chance to enjoy event

FAMILIES can try out sports at a revamped park during an action-packed fun day.

Preparations are already under way for the event at Buffery Park, Dudley, on May 5.

The park's friends group has lined up sporting activities.

People can ride a purpose built skateboard ramp with exhibitions by professional boarders and local skaters.

The cycle tracks course returns this year and there will be a chance for those with a head for heights to test out a climbing wall.

Zumba and tennis taster sessions will be on offer during the event which runs from 11am to 5pm.

There is also an outdoor gym at the park, off Selborne Road, to help keep people healthy.

Many activities will be free and people are invited to bring their own bikes and skateboards.

In addition there will be a stalls, birds of prey demonstrations, a barbecue, live music, bouncy castles, slides, tug o' war and orb or bubble football, where people play the game while wearing an inflated wrap.

Councillors have announced that they will transfer the home to Blackheath-based housing and care provider Black Country Housing Group after holding a tendering process.

A period of due diligence is under way before they can take over where the transfer of staff will be agreed. But a date for this has yet to be set but the council say staff, residents and their families will be kept informed.

However, members of the New Bradley Hall action group have voiced concerns. They claim they were not informed over the decision to seek a new not-for-profit group to manage the Compton Drive home which cares for the elderly.

The group also want assurances over Black Country Housing Group's credentials but council bosses say the organisation has a proven track record in the care industry.

Dudley Council director of adult, community and housing services, Andrea Pope-Smith, said: "The council has appointed an Independent Complaints Investigator to respond to a formal complaint raised by the New Bradley Hall Protest Group. The report will be concluded by the end of the month. We will publish the findings on the council's website."

She added: "Black Country Housing Group has vast experience in the provision of community services and support."

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# Memorial bid for machine makers

A MONUMENT commemorating an engineering firm based in Dudley could be built in time to coincide with an event to celebrate the Black Country.

Former workers of Simon Engineering are waiting for approval from Dudley Council to put up the 4ft high headstone-style structure at the corner of Angel Street and Queen's Cross, where the firm was based from 1954 to 1975. They hope to get the nod from planners so it can be unveiled on Black Country Day, July 14.

The firm was famous for making the Simon Snorkel, an hydraulic platform used for functions including fire-fighting. More than 13,000 of the machines were built by the company in Dudley, which moved to a base opposite Russells Hall Hospital in Pensnett Road, in 1975 before ceasing operation in Dudley 20 years later.

The monument is the idea of Tom Mullen, chairman of the Simon Engineering Retirement Association. The 81-year-old former floor operator of Hurst Hill, Coseley, said: "The funding is all sorted, we're now just waiting on approval for the plans then we can think about placing the monument. We're hoping we can get built in time for Black Country Day."

# Step out to dance class

A LINE dancing class is starting in Norton for beginners and those who want to return to the dance floor.

The classes will be held at St Michael's church centre, Maynard Avenue, from Wednesday at 7.15pm. It costs £3.20 for the 90 minute class. Teacher Nigel Rider, of Kingswinford, said: "The classes are great fun. I offer step by step instructions and we dance to a variety of songs, not just country and western. You don't need a partner and can pay on the evening."

Contact Mr Rider on (01384) 287551.

# Village views

KEEN walkers can join a gentle eight-mile walk taking in views surrounding two villages. Sandwell Ramblers have organised a walk around Kinver and Wolverley on Sunday. Call David Price or Steve Collet on 0121 434 3888 for details.

# Rose sale is sweet smell of success for Legion



From left: Dudley Mayor and Mayoress, Alan and Heather Finch, Quarry Bank Legion members Alfred Dimmock, Colin Scott, Gloria Donovan and Yvonne Artiss, from Sainsbury's

VOLUNTEERS have raised hundreds of pounds to mark St George's Day to help raise cash to support the armed forces.

Members of Quarry Bank Royal British Legion swapped poppies for buttonhole roses to sell to shoppers.

Branch members raised £850 through the sale of the roses and flags at Sainsbury's at Merry Hill and Asda at Brierley Hill.

The Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Alan Finch, stopped off at Sainsbury's to give the volunteers including Savannah Hunt and Gloria Donovan a helping hand.

Young air cadets from Air Training Corps

2156 Squadron Brierley Hill also got involved and were packing bags at the supermarket last month.

Branch spokesman Gloria Donovan said: "It's the first time they've helped us out. I'm really chuffed about it. Everyone did so well to raise that amount of money."

## Helps

She said the sale of roses and lavender bags plus donations from the bag pack had raised around £850 for the legion's poppy appeal - which helps British servicemen and women and their families.

# Lenny reflects with pride as he flies flag for borough

HIS partner jokingly calls him Morgan Freeman but funny man Lenny Henry says he is taking his newly appointed role as Freeman of Dudley seriously as he opened the town's archives centre.

Unveiling a plaque inside the £6 million archives and local history centre in Tipton Road, the Dudley-born 55-year-old spoke of his passion for the Black Country.

He said work to revamp the town's market and zoo alongside the presence of the Black Country Living Museum made his 'heart glow' and gave his personal backing to Black Country Day this July.

The Dudley-born comic even posed for photographs outside the centre holding the Black Country flag with the borough's Mayor Alan Finch.

Lenny, who was made Freeman of Dudley last year, said: "It's my great honour as the Morgan Freeman of Dudley - that's what my missus calls me - to pull the curtain."

"It's been two years in the making, it's moved from Coseley, it's beautiful, I'm going to pull this curtain back and hopefully there will be a picture of me in the Express & Star from 1975."

## Tradition

He added: "The fact they are doing the market is wonderful. The zoo has had a makeover and this is tied in with the Black Country Living Museum - these are all things which make my heart glow."

"It's not just about commerce, it's not just about money, it's about the history, and it's about tradition. I think that Dudley has a great tradition as a market town, as somewhere which is important in the Black Country in its own right."

The centre took two years to create and replaces the old archives centre in Mount Pleasant, Coseley.

Its wide rooms are filled with shelves crammed with more than 33,000 precious photographs, records and illustrations detailing the history and development of the borough.

Lenny, who grew up on Dudley's Buffery estate, started out working on the controversial Black And White Minstrel Show before getting his big break doing impressions on the talent show New Faces, said: "If you



Lenny Henry reflects on his the official unveiling of archive centre

don't know where you are from, you don't know where you are going.

"This is a wonderful facility and I hope the whole of Dudley take it on with pride and use it as a research place and where to find their roots."

"It's part of the whole rejuvenation of Dudley, which I really really applaud. I want to see Dudley back with a marvellous market place, the zoo being used to its full capacity and this being used by everybody."

He added: "The Black County has a lot to offer. We have the canals, we have the museum, we have this, we have got the engine room of Britain, we were a massive part of

industrial revolution - why can't we be a strong Black Country and present an alternative to Birmingham."

Lenny was given a tour of the centre with the Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Alan Finch. It was Lenny's first official engagement since being granted the Freedom of Dudley at a civic ceremony in October.

For the opening, a small section was dedicated to him and his achievements.

Lenny said: "I've been talking to the mayor and local councillors about being more involved and doing local stuff and I'm looking forward to that."

Councillor Finch said: "Lenny has been



Lenny Henry proud of his links with the Black Country

fantastic, we joked he will be going up the town centre to audition for X Factor next, so much is he doing for the borough at the moment."

"The archives centre is excellent and a great addition to the town's growing list of attractions."

Dudley South MP Chris Kelly was also at the official opening.

He said: "It's a brilliant centre and a perfect choice to get Lenny down here to open it. We have a lot in the Black Country to be proud of. It's great to know have somewhere like this people can discover the region's past."

## NEWS in brief

### Zoo sees record Easter visitors

AROUND 27,000 people poured through the gates of Dudley Zoo this Easter - making the holiday one of the attraction's best on record. There was a record breaking turnout on Good Friday alone as visitors topped almost 4,300.

Chief executive Peter Suddock revealed the figures came off the back of a successful 2013 with 250,000 visitors. "There was much interest in our newly-restored Tecton structures - the entrance and Safari Shop," he said.

### Inquest opens on engineer

AN inquest has been opened on engineer Glynn Brittle, aged 41, who was discovered at home in Eve Lane, Upper Gornal.

At the opening of the hearing at Smethwick Council House coroner's officer Margaret Collins said: "On April 21 police officers attended Eve Lane having been notified by Mr Brittle's father that he had attended his son's address, and had found he had hung himself." The inquest was adjourned for more information.

### The slow road to broadband

A ROAD in Dudley has been named the 50th slowest in the country for broadband connections. Wordsworth Road, Lower Gornal, had a rate of 2.04 megabits per second (Mbps), according to research by online comparison site uSwitch.com.

Summerfield Road, Clent, was 21st with 1.32 Mbps. Worst in the region was Maple Crescent, Alveley, with 0.91 Mbps.

### Spring fair to help boost church fund

A SEDGLEY church will host a spring fair and book sale on May 10. It will run from 10am until noon at St Andrew's Church, Bilston Street.

Stalls will be selling a range of items including clothes, plants, cakes, bric-a-brac and Fairtrade goods. Refreshments will be available. Proceed will go to church funds.

### Industrial history

THE AGM of Sedgley Local History Society on Thursday, May 8, is followed by a talk on industrialist Sir Alfred Hickman by Chris Smith at St Andrew's Church, Sedgley, at 7.30pm. Visitors welcome.

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# THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



OH, the indignity! From now on, anyone borrowing money to buy a house will have to convince the bank that they can afford the repayments. This tough new procedure has been denounced by one City slicker as "onerous and intrusive." The rest of us will regard it as commonsense – especially if it's my bank lending the money.

IT was, of course, a lack of such financial control under the Blair/Brown governments that led directly to Britain's financial crisis. I recall one couple some years ago at the height of mortgage-madness who told me they'd borrowed £400,000 to buy a restaurant without any savings or proof of income. It all ended in tears, for them and millions like them.

"THE most thankless job in the world." Correspondent Peter Osborne's description of the minister for tourism in Syria.

THE BBC at first blamed "sound issues" for the incomprehensible lines in this week's mini-series Jamaica Inn (BBC1). Did anyone buy that? What we heard was an exercise in that ancient theatrical craft of speaking in Mumbleshire rural gibberish. The actors could have spoken more clearly. They either chose or were directed not to ("It's Cornwall, darling, no-one's supposed to understand."). The result was lots of us switching on the subtitles. I was reminded of a night at the theatre when I seriously thought I was going deaf, so bad was the muffled mumbling on the stage. And then that great actor and all-round national treasure Celia Imrie made her entrance. Every word she spoke was crystal-clear. Cancel the hearing aids.

UKIP stands accused of racism over its election posters. But then we are all racists — it's just a question of how low you set the qualifying bar. I was accused of "appalling racism" a few days ago for suggesting that the US diplomat Zbigniew Brzezinski had a name like a winning line in Scrabble. A Daily Telegraph reader recently described being ticked off by a teacher for uttering the word "black-board" (negative ethnic overtones, apparently). Ukip's posters are certainly blunt, but then whoever said election posters had to pussyfoot around the issues?

A FREEDOM of Information request reveals that 67 NHS doctors have signed abortion forms without even seeing the woman involved. But no-one is to be prosecuted or even reported to the police by the General Medical Council. Labour MP Jim Dobbin says: "This shames the GMC and makes a mockery of the Abortion Act." Actually, it's worse than that. It is a warning of how euthanasia will work if it is ever legalised. Over the years, all the safeguards on abortion have been swept aside and the safeguards on euthanasia will go the same way. Abortion on demand has been promoted as "a woman's right to choose." Euthanasia on demand will arrive with the slogan "a family's right to choose," or some such nonsense. But remember - as ye sow, ye reap. For the babyboomer generation, now in their 60s and 70s, who have allowed abortion to happen on an industrial scale will be the first generation to be helped off this planet with a lethal overdose, whether they want to go or not.

A FRIEND whose car mysteriously broke down and refused to start has been told by the garage that it's probably a fault with the immobiliser. On the other hand, it could be the immobiliser working perfectly but at the wrong time. Progress, eh?

OUR changing language. Did you catch the lady from the Met Office promising us "a sandwich of sunshine"? We got a doughnut of damp.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

# Police investigation team moving in

TWO hundred new staff will be recruited at the police watchdog's new offices near Halesowen to allow it to investigate complaints about the police.

Lawyers, analysts and support staff are among the positions being created at the offices.

Employees will be recruited over the next few months and the staff will allow it to take on extra investigations.

IPCC acting chief executive

Amanda Kelly welcomed the news, saying the offices were the 'ideal location' headquarters.

Officials said the new office and recruitment drive is part of the IPCC's expansion programme announced by the Home Secretary in February 2013. Its budget will increase by more than 50 per cent in 2014/15 and is intended to give the IPCC capacity to deal with

more serious and sensitive allegations against the police. The IPCC is looking for people from diverse backgrounds.

IPCC Commissioner Derrick Campbell said: "It is vital that we recruit people that are, above all, open minded and conscientious when it comes to challenging information and dealing with the police and with the public."

# £35k energy boss to help cut council bills

A COUNCIL aiming to cut its £7 million bill for utilities such as gas, electricity and water is taking on an 'energy manager', who could be paid up to £35,000 a year.

Bosses at Dudley Council say they must make cut-backs of at least £250,000 on energy bills to around 800 properties it owns across the borough.

The authority faces making tough decisions after admitting it needs to make an additional £32m of cuts in the next three years. It comes after the council had already planned for £26m of savings over the same period before a worse-than-expected grant from Government.

## Risk

Under the initial plan to save £26m, the council had proposed up to 334 job losses by 2017 but it is now feared that another 40 positions could be at risk. The council says these stark predictions means it needs to find more savings and its energy bills needs to be slashed.

The council does not have a dedicated officer responsible to look at ways of cutting energy costs, consumption and carbon emissions. They say a new energy manager 'would be responsible for delivering savings and reducing carbon consumption'. The energy expert is expected to pick up a salary of between £32,072 to £34,984 per year. In a report council bosses say the salary would be paid for out of the savings made on energy costs.

# Record demand reported

A RECRUITMENT company based in Dudley said one of its divisions enjoyed a record month in March. Bosses at Concept Resourcing, Castlegate, which has been going for 14 years, said its field service engineering division had a 57 per cent increase in permanent vacancies on last year.

It said it was the strongest demand for its permanent recruitment services since 2008. "We are seeing the strongest demand across our field service engineering division which specialises in providing field engineers to a number of sectors," said spokeswoman Sallyanne Skidmore. In March, Concept, registered 346 new client vacancies in the division.

# Court in the act for Archer play



Wordsley actors, from left, Pete Goldsmith, Andrew Rock and David Southall

A GRIPPING courtroom drama following the story of a man accused of murdering his wife is being staged in Kingswinford.

Wordsley Amateur Dramatic Society will perform Jeffrey Archer's Beyond Reasonable Doubt at Kingswinford Methodist Church until Saturday.

The group has been rehearsing for 10 weeks and has also created the sets.

The first act of the play is a tense courtroom scene. Sir David Metcalf QC is accused of murdering his terminally-ill wife.

Metcalf is being played by Andrew Rock and the judge by Pete Goldsmith.

Performances start at 7.30pm at the venue in Stream Road. Tickets cost £7, or £6 with concessions for pensioners or students aged under 21. To book, call 01384 273026.

Spokesman for the society Nick Greaves said: "It is a gripping play and there are a lot of twists to enjoy."

"We have been working hard to prepare and are now looking forward to performing the play on stage."

# High rise tour to check on pet dogs

TENANTS and residents living in high rise blocks are invited to free health checks for their dogs.

The PDSA charity's Pet-Check tour will enable residents to receive free advice from a vet, together with a health check for their pet.

Today (Thursday) they will be at Brierley Hill at Chapel Street estate housing office. They will then tomorrow move on to Netherton at Arley & Compton Courts. They will attend each venue from 9am until 4pm.

Andrea Pope Smith, director of adult, community and housing services, said: "Dudley Council is committed to being a community council and such initiatives bring different partners together to help society as a whole. Many of our residents have dogs and welcome the help and advice the PDSA has to offer."

"Those attending will be able to receive information about the five animal welfare needs including diet and nutrition, body shape awareness, dental care, general health and wellbeing."

Services such as micro-chipping, ear cleaning and nail clipping may also be available for the dogs but charges will apply.

# Teacher gets Google award

A TEACHER has jetted out to the USA to the headquarters of an internet giant to accept an award.

Rebecca Franks heads a national organisation called CAS #include which helps promote computer science and IT to children from all backgrounds.

She was invited to represent the organisation and pick up an award at the Google headquarters in California.

Mrs Franks, who is a computer science teacher at The Kingswinford School, received the Google RISE award.

# Aunt found dead

AN elderly woman found dead at her home died from natural causes, probably heart failure, an inquest at Smethwick heard. Retired factory worker Hilda Rowley, 87, was found at the property on Bristol Road in Netherton on April 20 by her niece Maureen Willets.



## ORIEL CARE HOME

## VACANCY for SHELTERED ACCOMMODATION in BEECH HOUSE, HAGLEY ROAD, STOURBRIDGE

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Beech House has been specifically designed for the use of four elderly people who are still able to do most things for themselves and want to maintain most of their independence, but have the security of other people around them and a safe environment in which to live. It is in essence a half-way house before full residential care is decided upon.

Please contact our Manager Jane Linford, for a fuller explanation of Beech House and what we can offer you. Telephone number 01384 375867.

## RARE OPPORTUNITY



## Joining forces in bid to cut energy bill

HOUSEHOLDERS are being urged to sign up to a campaign to help them get the best deal on their energy bills.

Dudley Council has launched their fourth big switch campaign as part of a national initiative in which councils take part in collective energy auctions.

The big switch aims to encourage large numbers of residents to join forces under the council banner to secure the best tariffs from energy suppliers.

### Deadline

The council is urging people to register by the June 9 deadline. The more people that register, the greater the opportunity to gain a better deal from energy providers but there is no obligation to switch.

John Polychronakis, chief executive at Dudley Council, said: "Although the winter months are now behind us, this isn't a time to be complacent."

"I would encourage residents to act now against increasing fuel prices by registering for this most recent auction."

Register online at [www.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.dudley.gov.uk) or by visiting or calling Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345.

## Concert of the classics

AN AFTERNOON concert featuring string and wind ensembles is being organised by school music teachers — and will be free for under-18s.

Oldswinford Hospital School music teachers Steven Swindells, Anna Downs and Helen Foster are bringing the Vellen Ensemble and the Chameleon Ensemble to play a matinee concert via not-for-profit group Local & Live at St James' Church, Wollaston, at 3pm on Saturday. The programme includes music by Mozart, Elgar and Gershwin. Tickets are £8 on the door.

## Collectors' fair

AN antiques fair will be held in Kinvor this weekend.

The Waverley Fairs takes place on the first Sunday of every month at Kinvor Community Centre. It runs between 10.30am and 3.30pm. Call 0121 5504123 for details.

# Firm fined £1,000 after worker injured

A METAL works firm has been fined £1,000 after a worker lost part of a finger in an unguarded machine.

P&D Group Services Ltd today said it had learnt lessons from the accident, which happened at its base off Old Bush Street in Brierley Hill.

Dudley Magistrates' Court heard how a 36-year-old worker from Rowley Regis had been operating machinery which folds metal strips into hollow tubes to form parts of a shutter. When a dent appeared in the

sheets, he tried to feel what was causing the problem but his glove got caught and his finger was pulled into a roller. The injury was so serious he had to have the top of his finger amputated and was off work for seven weeks. He has since returned to the company, doing the same job.

### Inevitability

Following an investigation by the Health and Safety Executive, it was discovered the machine had been unguarded during the incident on September 25 last year. The company was fined £1,000 and ordered to

pay £1,414 in costs after pleading guilty to a breach in work equipment regulations.

Health and Safety Executive inspector John Glynn told the court: "This was not an isolated incident on a single day. Lack of guarding had persisted over a period of time, meaning there was an inevitability of someone being injured at some point. This employee suffered a shocking and painful injury that was entirely preventable. It was P&D Group's responsibility to ensure work equipment was safe and that dangerous moving parts were guarded. For some time the company required staff to approach the

danger area around the rollers to set up and adjust the machine during production runs, yet continuously failed to identify and address the matter of the missing guards."

"Preventing access to dangerous parts of machinery is a legal requirement and there is ample guidance and industry standards."

A spokesman for P&D Group Services Ltd, which trades as Insulated Roller Shutter Projects, said there had been 'enormous' improvements made at the firm, which employs 17, since the incident. He said all machinery now had guards, adding: "We have learnt from this incident."

# Ukip leader says Black Country is a key target

MOBBED by supporters and international media, Nigel Farage swept into Dudley on Friday as his party Ukip makes the Black Country one of its key targets for European and council election seats.

The charismatic leader of the Eurosceptic political party donned his trademark trilby and a wax overcoat to take a tour of Dudley town centre before a rousing speech to 650 inside a packed Dudley town hall.

## Apprentice places are on the rise

AN MP has welcomed news that the number of work places offering apprenticeships in his constituency is on the increase.

Chris Kelly, Conservative MP for Dudley South, said the number of firms offering apprenticeships in Dudley South has risen by 37.5 per cent in two years.

He is now calling for even more Black Country businesses to take on an apprentice after the latest research revealed the extent of the benefit to employers.

### Rising

Last year 550 work places in Dudley South employed apprentices with the number offering apprenticeships rising rapidly.

The total number of work places in Dudley South employing apprentices during 2010/2011 was 400, in 2011/12 490 and in 2012/13 550.

The MP said: "Apprenticeships play a pivotal role in raising our nation's skills."

"They also deliver a strong return on our economy, for Dudley South's employers and, ultimately, for the apprentices themselves."

Dubbing it the 'Black Country Blast', Mr Farage says Dudley, as well as Wolverhampton, had seen an 'exceptional' rise in party membership and activism in the run up to next month's elections.

He said: "In Dudley we are doing exceptionally well. Growth has been really good. We are fielding a full slate of 24 candidates and we could win enough seats to form the official opposition on council here."

"It is an important area for us in the European and local elections and the aim is to be the top party in the region for Europe and number two in the local elections. I'm calling it our Black Country Blast."

He went on to say: "The reception in the Black Country has been superb — you can't quite put your finger on it but there is something about this place — its sense of tradition, patriotism, both English and British, which make it such a friendly place to come to."

Mr Farage's first stop was at the street market in Dudley where he surprised those traders who were sticking it out in the rain. He and his entourage also ate fish and chips in Sedgley and topped a pint of Bathams in Upper Gornal.



Nigel Farage shares a joke with Dudley market trader Alan Bennett, who said he will be making his mind up nearer the election

## Party boss accused of 'peddling hatred'

IN Dudley Town Hall Nigel Farage's jokes and views on getting the UK out of the European Union went down a treat — while on the street outside a group of around two dozen protesters accused his party of 'peddling hatred'.

The capacity audience on Friday night were in stitches after Farage teased off with talk of his latest recruitment campaign.

"I was in Manchester last night," he boomed. "And I was hoping to make a rather high-profile signing. David Moyes. He's done a terrific job of tak-

ing Manchester United out of Europe." The 50-year-old spoke for around hour, making a rallying call for people to join 'Ukip's people's army.'

He said his party was on the 'verge' of the biggest shake-up and breakthrough in recent political history, even claiming his party could win enough seats at next year's General Election to be 'kingmakers' in a hung parliament.

He said: "The three other parties are people same the political elite. They go to the same schools, they go to Ox-

ford, study PPE, become a researcher for a politician, become an MP at 27 or 28, then are in the Cabinet at 40."

"They have never done a proper day's work."

He added: "If next year and we are in the position the Lib Dems are, then make no mistake there will be an EU referendum."

Protesters accused the Ukip leader of sleaze, bigotry and divisive politics. Dave Traxson, of Wolverhampton, said: "The poster campaign of Ukip is a disgrace. They are peddling hatred."

## NEWS in brief

### Couple in war graves mission

A COUPLE visiting the First World War battlefield of Gallipoli are offering to photograph the graves of any soldiers who have relatives in the Black Country.

Margaret Carter and Steve Moore, of Lawnswood, near Stourbridge, are travelling to the Turkish peninsula where the Allies suffered around 250,000 casualties.

Anybody with relatives buried at Gallipoli, or Lemnos, which they are also visiting, can contact them on 01384 375499.

### Tugs chugging in for May Day fun

BLACK Country Living Museum's bi-annual Tug Boat event takes place this weekend.

Historic canal tugs, some dating back to the 19th century, will be making a splash from Saturday to Monday.

Children can join in with Hands on Heritage canal crafts and create colourful canal art.

On Monday May Day celebrations will include Maypole dancing with professional dancers accompanied by live music.

### Bishop's wife funeral arranged

THE funeral has been arranged for the Bishop of Worcester's wife, who died after a battle with cancer.

Denise Inge passed away on Sunday, nine months after she was diagnosed with sarcoma. The 50-year-old died with her husband Rt Rev Dr John Inge and daughters Eleanor and Olivia by her side.

Her funeral will take place at Worcester Cathedral at Tuesday at 2pm.

### Scheme will be helping hospice

THOSE looking to get a will can have one written at a reduced price while helping a good cause.

Mary Stevens Hospice in Stourbridge has teamed up with solicitors Benson-Williams after the charity designated May as Wills month. Contact the fundraising team on 01384 377778 or email [mshfundraising.co.uk](mailto:mshfundraising.co.uk)

### Two pubs reopen

TWO Stourbridge pubs are re-opening under new ownership following refurbishment. The Waggon and Horses in Worcester Street, opens today and the Seven Stars, Brook Road, Oldswinford, tomorrow.

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IN MY VIEW

WITH  
MARK  
ANDREWS



BILL Nighy once remarked that very little stirred him to feelings of patriotism.

The professional luvvie, best known for his role in the saccharine-soaked romantic comedy Love Actually, said: "I'm always slightly suspicious of anyone carrying a flag, of any colour."

So how did anybody ever think it would be a good idea casting him in the role of Sgt Wilson for a remake of that most patriotic of sitcoms, Dad's Army?

Remakes of much-loved films and television shows are a minefield at the best of time. Think the 2006 version of The Pink Panther, with Steve Martin taking the role of Peter Sellers as the bumbling Inspector Clouseau. What was all that about?

Or even worse, the 2009 'reboot' of Minder. Really, we should have known from the start that this would be a turkey. Anything that brands itself a 'reboot' is certain to be hateful.

But Dad's Army? There are really some things you should never touch.

This series was the epitome of Britishness, a tale of the stolid underdog who would fight to the death in the face of any adversity.

It was also a brilliant comedy of manners, pitting the chippy, working-class-lad-done-well Mainwaring against the foppish, lazy dilettante Sgt Wilson.

It is hard to see how a metropolitan intellectual like Nighy would fit in with this.

And besides, what is the point? Maybe there would be a case for the BBC trying to remake some of the early episodes which have been lost. But a glossy, cinematic remake? It's wrong, wrong, wrong.

I don't know who came up with the idea, but I suspect that if Sgt Wilson were around, he would have some gentle words of advice.

"Do you think that's wise, Sir?" And no doubt Captain Mainwaring would be much more direct: "Stupid boy!"

Or, as Warden Hodges would say: Ruddy hooligans.

□□□□□

TALKING of Bill Nighy, it seems that the police in Bristol seem to have taken another one of his films to heart.

After hearing reports of a stolen moped they sent five high-powered police cars and helicopter to pursue the rogue riders.

But on discovering that the fugitives weren't wearing crash helmets, the boys in blue decided to slow down the pursuit to a snail's pace to comply with health and safety guidance.

The chase lasted for two-and-a-half hours.

Lads, lads. Hot Fuzz was a comedy. Not a training video.



Some of the memorabilia that are on display



Duncan Edwards Way on Dudley Southern Bypass



The statue of Duncan in Dudley town centre

# Following the trail of legend Duncan

A new leaflet maps out Dudley's tributes to its famous footballing son. **LEE WATTON** takes a stroll

**HE was the home-grown footballing hero who tragically died in an air crash aged just 21.**

But Duncan Edwards still occupies a special place in the hearts and minds of fans across the globe and many still make the pilgrimage to Dudley in honour of his memory.

And now they are able to follow in the great man's footsteps with the launch of a trail showcasing the various town landmarks linked to the legendary player. It will take supporters from the stained glass window dedicated to him at St Francis Church to his grave at Dudley Cemetery – which is visited by hundreds of fans each year.

Duncan's family said it was a 'moving tribute' to the player, who was born in Malvern Crescent, and planned to take the tour when next in the town.

It has been launched by Dudley Council to give fans the chance to learn more about the player and the tributes to him in his hometown.

The tour has been mapped out in an official leaflet which also includes an account of Duncan's tragically short life both in and outside football.

It includes memories of him growing up in Dudley and school photograph,s along with glowing tributes from former professional footballers, including Sir Bobby Charlton.

Duncan was born on October 1, 1936. During his career he played for Manchester United and England and was nicknamed The Tank. He played at wing-half – but could also play centre half, centre forward and inside forward.

Duncan was one of the Busby Babes, the young Manchester United team formed under manager Sir Matt Busby



England training with Stanley Matthews, left, and captain Billy Wright, right, in 1957

in the late 1940s. He tragically died at the age of 21 from injuries sustained in the Munich air disaster on February 6, 1958.

But fans continue to celebrate his achievements and the visitor trail is the latest in a series of tributes paid to the star dubbed by his teammate Sir Bobby Charlton as 'the greatest player I have played with'.

Among the stops is St Francis Church, Laurel Road, where there is a stained glass window in Duncan's honour. It depicts the player and was

designed by Francis Skeat. Sir Matt Busby unveiled the window on August 27, 1961 and said: "There will only be one Duncan Edwards and any boy who strives to emulate Duncan or take him as his model, won't go far wrong."

Part of the trail is the player's grave in Dudley Cemetery, on Stourbridge Road. It has long been a shrine to fans and there is usually a fresh bunch of red and white flowers filling the black granite vase below the 6ft headstone.

The trail also includes Duncan Edwards Close, named in his honour,

which is located opposite the cemetery.

Visitors can follow the tour to Priory Park where a games area has been created in commemoration of Duncan. It was opened in 2006 by Sir Bobby Charlton.

One of the stops is Duncan Edwards Way. In 2008, Dudley's Southern Bypass was re-named in tribute to the player.

There is also a permanent display at the town's museum and art gallery in St James's Road.

Memorabilia included trophies, medals and caps, to football shirts, photographs, old newspaper cuttings and pictures, including a 10-minute video-clip of footage, celebrating the player's life.

And the trail would not be complete without a visit to the statue of the sporting great which has pride of place in the town's Market Place.

## Shrine

Duncan's cousin Keith said: "I am delighted to hear about this trail. It is a wonderful and very moving treatment to Duncan," he said.

"It keeps his memory alive and highlights the pride people still have in Duncan and what he achieved.His grave remains a shrine to fans"

Mr Edwards said the family visited the grave twice a year, for his birthday on October 1 and also when he died on February 21, and would walk the trail when they were next in the area.

The guide is available from museums in the borough, Dudley Archives and Local History Centre, libraries and visitor attractions.

A version can be downloaded from the history and archives section of the Discover Dudley website at discover.dudley.gov.uk/history-archives/duncan-edwards

Dudley Council chief executive John Polychronakis said: "Duncan Edwards is one of Dudley's most famous sons and his life and legacy is something we are all extremely proud of and he will never be forgotten."

## POLITICS

WITH  
DANIEL  
WAINWRIGHT



IT seemed like the ultimate publicity stunt.

In the meetings to discuss the opening ceremony for the Commonwealth Games, blowing up five tower Glasgow tower blocks in front of a worldwide television audience must have seemed like a superb wheeze.

But now, with just weeks to go to the start, Commonwealth Games chiefs have been forced to perform an embarrassing U-turn and abandon the spectacular after 17,500 people signed a petition objecting to the plans. More to the point, several people living in the shadow of the flats said they would refuse to leave their homes to allow the explosions to take place.

Certainly, blowing up five of Scotland's tallest buildings would have made great television. And when similar such demolitions have been performed in the Black Country, there have been no shortage of people turning out to enjoy the spectacle.

However, while blowing up rundown, unpopular tower blocks might be popular in the short-term, there surely must be a debate to be had about whether it is a good long-term housing policy.

The high-rise flats of the 1950s and 60s were certainly not what one would call an architectural triumph. In the past, weak security, an unsuitable tenant mix, and poor maintenance has made many of them difficult to let. And once a block gets a bad name, it is very hard to shake off. Also, it should be recognised that many of these blocks are now between 50 and 60 years old, and were often built hurriedly and cheaply to solve Britain's postwar housing crisis.

However, much of the criticism of the so-called 'bedroom tax' or 'spare-room subsidy', depending on which side of the fence you sit, has surrounded the shortage of one and two-bedroom homes for single people and childless couples. And whatever the merits or otherwise of this policy, the problem is not going to be solved by demolishing such properties without replacing them.

There are shining examples of where local council in the West Midlands have done a superb job of turning around tower blocks. Baylie Court in Stourbridge, and Clent Court in Dudley spring to mind, where the once-unpopular flats have successfully been turned into pleasant homes.

Of course, transforming the homes that people love to hate is going to prove a far tougher task than knocking them down and handing the site over to developers, and throwing in a commitment to 'affordable homes'.

But if tackling Britain's housing crisis by encouraging people to 'downsize' is the way forward, sticking dynamite under the dwindling number of small homes is a strange way of going about it.

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HOLIDAYS



## Legion seek help with hero exhibition

TO celebrate the centenary of the Great War, the Lower Gornal Branch of the Royal British Legion is forming an exhibition based on local heroes. We are, of course, aware of these that paid the ultimate sacrifice. What we do lack is information on those that returned home from the war and continued in their lives.

To this end we are interested in acquiring on loan memorabilia from members of the local community for a short period. The exhibition will be shown in the public library and also within the British Legion club.

Anyone who is willing to allow photographs and other documents to be used can forward these by email to br3247rbl@btinternet.com with donor details so the due acknowledgement can be given. Persons willing to loan mementoes, including medals, can deliver same to the Royal British Legion club in Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, securely packed and marked for the attention of the branch committee. Please include details for safe return of such items.

**KEN FINCH, CHAIRMAN**  
**Lower Gornal Branch RBL**

## More votes for no one

WITH the MEP elections soon and our General Election next year, the thought occurs to me as to why the majority of people do not bother to vote. If it was local elections, the majority would vote 'for or against' the sitting councillor.

But what I am suggesting is how to increase the 25 percent who do actually vote. I should like to see on the ballot papers an extra candidate, shown as 'no name', of a non-existent party. If voters could not see any particular person or party they wanted to vote for, they could vote for 'no name', as a protest vote, instead of just spoiling their ballot papers, if as I believe, this would attract more voters to the polls, just to register a protest vote.

Should the 'no name' candidate win (it may be possible), then the main parties should re-assess their candidates, with the lowest polling parties withdrawing from the contest, before another poll is conducted.

**J JONES**  
**Wordsley**

## Seeking facts on old soldier

I AM carrying out research into Private 4271 E. Perks, of the Worcestershire Regiment, who was killed on 13th March 1916, and is buried in the churchyard at St Mary's Church, Oldswinford, Stourbridge.

I would like any relatives of Private Perks - or anyone who knows anything about him - to contact me on 01384 372499.

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## Impact of changes to benefits

AN Oxfam report just published states 1.75 million people are affected by the benefit changes.

This is on top of real term benefit cuts. It has hit the most vulnerable in society - the coalition Government's welfare cap and the bedroom tax, cuts in council tax.

The worst hit 200,000 of the poorest families and the disabled are losing out by £876.00 per year.

Mark Goldring of Oxfam said the Government were blowing massive holes in their safety net. It is further proof that the bedroom tax has been a disaster.

The Coalition's answer to the Oxfam report is burying their heads in the sand and saying that a strong safety net is working.

I just hope the people of this country know where to stamp their feet in the upcoming May elections and don't forget the Tories wouldn't have been able to have brought out these policies without the dedicated help of the Lib-Dems.

**B WHITEHOUSE**  
**Kingswinford**

## LETTERS to the Editor

### POST

Dudley Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

### E-MAIL

Dudley.chron  
@expressandstar.co.uk

## Nothing wrong with sense of smell

I RECENTLY wrote about the smell of dog mess on the park at Wall Heath, and this is not the only park, especially when freshly mowed.

I can assure J Jones there is nothing at all wrong with my sense of smell.

Perhaps he and his friends have lived there so long that they have become immune to the smell (or perhaps they walk about with pegs on their noses).

If he/she takes a walk up the gully between the park and the shops there is plenty on the ground to see, and if he/she bends down and puts their fingers in it, then rub it on their noses they might recognise the type of smell I'm talking about.

Also, on dog fouling, does this person not realise that dog faeces carry a worm

that can cause blindness in young children or is it that they just don't care?

I, like millions of other people, have grandchildren who play on these parks and believe this was the purpose they were built for, not walking dogs.

I must admit, I may be wrong about the park itself, I have noticed a number of dog bins situated around the park and this could be the source of the smell, but on a warm day it is definitely there.

Perhaps J Jones should try venturing out of his/her airtight box once in a while and take the peg off their nose and have a stroll through the dog mess round the park.

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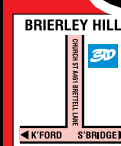
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## Murderous tales told by speaker

WOLLASTON E TGW

CHAIRMAN Jean Latham welcomed 48 members to the April meeting and read out the apologies.

A one minute silence was observed in memory of Phyllis Dunn, who had been a long-standing member.

The secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting and these were duly passed and signed.

The treasurer gave a favourable account of the financial situation and was then kept very busy collecting monies for various future activities.

Forthcoming events start with the annual dinner at Stone Manor, commencing at 7pm for 7.30pm on May 6.

This is followed by the annual one mile Macmillan Walk on June 3, taking place in the area around Mary Stevens Park, Stourbridge, followed by the 'apres walk' meal in the Greyhound, Norton Road.

The visits to Hagley Hall (two parties) take place on June 2 and 9, both commencing at 2pm.

The speaker for the evening was Ian Bott who related, with the aid of slides, accounts of murders which had taken place in the Black Country. The talk, both amusing and frightening was enjoyed by all, and appreciation was shown in the usual way.

Competition winners were Ann Powell and Pat Archer, whilst the raffle prizes went to Sheila West and Maureen Baker.

The next meeting is on May 1. Non-members are welcome to drop in at St James' Church Hall, Wollaston at 7.30pm.

## High tea puts smile on pensioners' faces

HEDNESFORD LIONS

RECENTLY formed Hednesford Lions put smiles on the faces of more than 100 local pensioners at a "Putting on the Ritz" Afternoon tea event at the Aquarius Ballroom.

The afternoon comprised of live music, bingo, a raffle and a high tea.

Hednesford Lions held a number of fundraising events and with the help of the Staffordshire community grant and local transport firm Almar cabs managed arrange this free event for the deserving pensioners of Hednesford.

One guest commented: "It's so nice that someone has taken the time to do this for us, I even had a personal invitation."

All of the Lions' guests went away with a lovely framed photograph of themselves as a memento of the afternoon tea.

Hednesford Lions are always looking for new members to join them to continue the good work it does in the community.

Meetings are at 7.45pm on the second Tuesday of the month at the Hen House pub, Eskrett Street.

For more details, call 0844 963 2451 or e-mail info@hednesfordlions.co.uk



Guest Janet Locke with Lions mascot Leo

## Behind the scenes at Chelsea

CLENT GARDENING CLUB

ON March 28, Kim Hurst spoke about A True Cottage Garden illustrating this talk with lots of actual plants and some slides.

She explained the true meaning of a cottage garden incorporated flowers, herbs, shrubs and vegetables into one garden instead of four different areas.

In September at the club's Flower Show there will be a pelargonium competition to be judged on the day. Bookings will be taken in the very near future for three evening

visits, the first one on May 9 to Hill View Gardens, the second one on June 6 to "The Barton" at Martley and the third has been arranged for June 24 to Hill Close Gardens at Warwick. On April 25 the club went 'Behind the Scenes' - Creating A Chelsea Garden with Frank Hardy.

Around 60 members attended, including three visitors.

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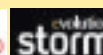
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# Mountain of rubbish sees public bill pile up

A LEGAL row over a towering pile of rubbish has so far cost the taxpayer almost £90,000 as environment bosses said only 10 per cent of the waste had been cleared.

Environment Agency officials have also spent almost £10,000 on an aircraft to fly over the waste pile to create a 3D map.

But they said they would still pursue the bosses at Refuse Derived Fuel Ltd, in Brierley Hill, to pay for the clean-up of the site as well as the legal costs.

Residents in the area have long complained about the views from their windows being blighted by rubbish piled around 40ft high in places at one time.

## Failed

Many of those living nearby, including in new homes on the old Royal Brierley Crystal site, have been demanding a clear-up since 2009.

The company, which recycles waste for use in the fuel industry, was ordered to reduce the height of the mound. But although some waste was removed the firm failed to meet strict orders set by the High Court in Birmingham.

Company director Robert McNaughton was sentenced to six months in prison last December for contempt of court after failing to meet deadlines to remove the waste.

According to a Freedom of Information request, the Environment Agency have accrued legal fees of £87,770.87 to bring the action against the firm. This includes £22,787.47, excluding VAT, in barrister's fees, £53,577 in internal legal costs and £1,739.40 in court fees.

The agency also spent £9,667 flying an aircraft over the site, in Moor



The huge mound of waste at the Moor Street site in Brierley Hill



The mountain of rubbish as seen over the rooftops from Bague Walk

Street, using light detection and ranging technology to identify the scale of the piles to use as evidence in court.

Mr McNaughton and the company was ordered to meet all the legal costs in the civil case.

The amount that Mr McNaughton personally will have to pay and how much will come from the company has yet to be decided by the court.

Environment Agency spokeswoman

Sharon Robinson said they are continuing to work towards the clean up of the site. But she said: "We believe that the taxpayer should not pay for this.

It is the result of commercial activity involving RDF Limited and the landowners. We will continue to press the parties responsible to clear the site."

Mr McNaughton could not be contacted for a comment

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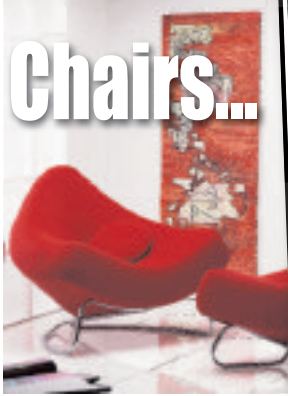
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# Pub raider caught after dropping cigarette butt

A BURGLAR who broke into pubs in the Black Country has been jailed for six years.

Trevor Hollis targeted seven pubs in Dudley, Stourbridge, Brierley Hill and Coseley in less than two weeks, all at night or in the early hours of the morning.

In some cases the landlords or licensees were on the premises.



Trevor Hollis

Hollis, aged 32, of Market Drayton, was arrested at the New Wellington pub, in Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill on November 14, 2013.

The landlord had been in bed in a flat above and was woken by a bang, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. He caused hundreds of pounds worth of damage.

He also targeted the King William, Malt Shovel and The Bramford Arms, all Dudley, and the Samson & Lion and The Starving Rascal, both Stourbridge. He previously pleaded guilty to the six burglaries and also to raiding the pub area of the Painters Arms in Coseley with an accomplice, stealing £100.

He denied a separate charge of burgling the upstairs private area of the Painters Arms, but a jury found him guilty.

The court heard how an intruder, believed not to have been Hollis but rather his accomplice, went upstairs armed with a hammer to steal from the property, leaving the licensee 'distressed'. Mr Robert Cowley, defending, asked the judge to be lenient in



CCTV captures Trevor Hollis behind the bar of the Malt Shovel

his overall sentence, saying: "For the majority of these offences he did plead guilty."

Another of the pubs that was occupied by the landlords broke in was The Bramford Arms.

They were woken by the alarm and watched Hollis on a live CCTV feed.

Mr Edward Soulsby, prosecuting, said Hollis got away with two charity boxes containing an unknown sum of money and tried to force open the till.

At the King William he stole £500 from gambling machines and forced open the pool table. At the Malt Shovel

he got £600 from games machines and £100 from a charity jar. And at the Samson & Lion he broke into games machines and a pool table, getting away with £300, as well as bottles of whiskey, vodka and Disaronno.

But at the Starving Rascal he left behind a cigarette end, which enabled police to trace him through DNA.

The court heard he had a string of burglaries, as well as drug offences, dating back to 1998.

Hollis was sentenced to six years and was ordered to pay a £120 victim surcharge.

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## Pingo p-p-picks up birthday celebrations



**Dudley Zoo bird keeper Kriss Pearson with Humboldt penguin Pingu, which 23 years old**

BIRD keepers at Dudley Zoo have been celebrating the birthday of their oldest penguin, Pingu, who turned 23 this week, was one of five Humboldt penguins brought to zoo in 1991.

Keeper Kriss Pearson said: "It's because of him that we now have 67 parent-reared penguins in the bay, which is one of the largest colonies of Humboldt penguins in the UK."

Celebrations continued last Friday to mark World Penguin Day, an annual event to coincide with the northern migration of penguins.

The birds, which are classed as vulnerable, originate along the South American coastline in areas reached by the Humboldt current, named after German scientist, Alexander Von Humboldt explored the region in the late 1700s.

# Waste site proposals stink, say protesters

**A CAMPAIGN group fighting plans for a waste recycling plant in Brierley claims people living within a half-a-mile radius could be faced with 'stomach-wrenching' odour.**

Clean Power Properties insists its proposed plant off Moor Stree will not generate bad smells and has described an 'odour map' by the Brierley Hill Say No To Waste Site group as 'not relevant'.

The map covers an area with six churches, three schools and homes.

Group member have warned residents they could be impacted by odour from the plant in a rallying call to bring more people on board their campaign.

A public meeting takes place at Hawbush Primary School on June 7 - just over two weeks before a planning inquiry at Dudley Town Hall to decide on the controversial project, first unveiled two years ago.

Campaign spokesman Tim Lee said the map was based on another anaerobic digestion plant at the Poplars Landfill site, Cannock.

He said they measured the radius by the distance people living from the Biffa-run site had complained about smells. Mr Lee, aged 63, of Seagers Lane, said: "Residents in Cannock as far away as 800 metres are complaining."

"We have paid a visit to the houses near the Cannock site and when we stopped the car we could smell it, it was like rotting food - it was stomach-wrenching."

Clean Power Properties has claimed the plant, which will process 195,000 tons of waste a year and create 30 jobs, will not cause a smell.

A spokesman said: "The odour map is not relevant to the Clean Power proposal."

"No external storage or processing of waste is proposed, nor spreading of digestate around the site. The proposal has been designed to be entirely appropriate for the site."

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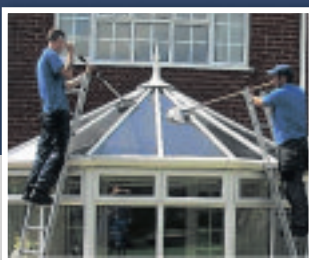
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# Tributes to popular opera singer Lyndsie

SHE was born and bred in the Black Country and rose from humble beginnings to win global acclaim for performances in works by Gilbert and Sullivan.

Tributes have paid to opera singer Lyndsie Holland, from Stourbridge, who has died at the age of 79.

After leaving school she worked as a telephonist, but after starting to perform with a choir her career took a different path.

She performed for one of the leading theatre companies – the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company known for its productions of Gilbert and Sullivan works.

Miss Holland died on April 2 after suffering a heart attack.

Her friend of more than 40 years David Harrison-Steadman, who was principal conductor of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, paid tribute to a performer who 'enjoyed popularity wherever she went'.

Miss Holland, from Pedmore, was the youngest child in a family of eight.

Her introduction to singing came in harmonising with her brothers and hearing opera recordings at their home.

She was born Margaret Foster but took her stage name from the maiden names of her two grandmothers.

Miss Holland attended Stourbridge High School and worked at the British Road Services, Kingswinford, and as a telephonist in Birmingham.

After taking preliminary singing lessons, she sang as soloist with Kingswinford-based male voice choir, the Gentleman Songsters, and was later persuaded to join the Midland Music Makers. To her astonishment and delight she was given a leading role in a production of Borodin's Prince Igor. At one of the performances she was



Opera singer Lyndsie Holland



Lyndsie Holland as Katisha in a

spotted by a talent scout from Sadler's Wells Opera and after further study at the Birmingham School of Music made her debut for the company in 1968.

Two years later she auditioned for Dame Bridget D'Oyly Carte at the Savoy and was offered a job.

Her first performance was as Lady Sangazure in The Sorcerer. She appeared in the other Gilbert and Sullivan operas as quickly as she could learn the roles including Dame Hannah in Ruddigore, Dame Carruthers in The Yeomen of the Guard and Katisha in The Mikado. One Broadway critic

hailed her as the best Katisha since the 1930s. She sang Little Buttercup in the company's ATV film of HMS Pinafore and also at the Royal Command Performance at Windsor Castle. During the centenary celebrations at the Savoy, BBC Radio 2 transmitted The Mikado with Miss Holland as Katisha. She was principal contralto for the company for nearly seven years. She spent her final year in a London nursing home. Mr Harrison-Steadman said: 'Success never went to Lyndsie's head and she enjoyed popularity wherever she went.'

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money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

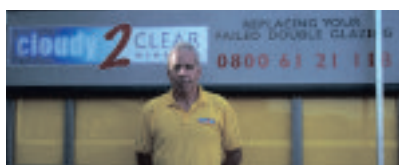
We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people

I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

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## Shoppers are thanked for their generous donations

GENEROUS shoppers have helped to raise £21,000 in the past 12 months to help charities and groups in the Black Country. Thanks to customer donations, Sainsbury's, at Amblecote, collected £21,077.

This includes £4,121 raised so far for the supermarket's Charity of the Year, Mary Steven's Hospice and £1,062 for the Poppy Appeal.

In-store collections, bag packs and in-store boxes raised £18,884. The store's recent Sports Relief activities were able to add £2,554.

Manager Kevin Healy said: "I would like to thank our customers for their generosity, in helping us raise this amazing amount of money, to support our local community, in these difficult economic times. We

would also like to thank them for their phenomenal support for the Xmas Toy and recent Easter Egg Appeals, run in conjunction with the Merryhill store, as well as their on going support for the Wellcat food donation scheme and our charity bric-a-brac stall.

"Our store is at the heart of the community and it is important we play our part to support it."

The store also made donations to 63 local charities and groups, including a Fairtrade hamper to the Mayor's Charities, through its Sainsbury's Community Budget scheme. This was set up to help charitable groups in the community and is partly funded by sales of the retailer's Bag for Life Scheme.



Kevin Healy and, from left, Julie Bate, Dawn Hill, Alan Wilkins, Matthew Fellows, Kerry Anderson and Alistair Ashfield

## Jewellers help air ambulance cause

BRIERLEY Hill-based retail jeweller, TH Baker, has chosen Midlands Air Ambulance as its charity for 2014.

The firm has eight stores across the Midlands and staff will be taking part in a variety of fundraising events during the year, including the charity's go-karting day.

Chief operating officer Phil Higginson said: "Our company was founded in the Midlands over 125 years ago and we still have an incredibly strong commitment to the area, which is one of the reasons why we chose to support the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity. In addition, one of our staff members had to rely on the service, demonstrating just how close to home the charity is."

"We are really looking forward to supporting this vital service by undertaking a wide range of fundraising activities throughout the year and would encourage our customers to get involved too."

Sofia Voutianitis, from the charity, added: "We are extremely fortunate to have charity of choice commitment from TH Baker."

## Inhaler law change plan gets praise from MP

**A BAN on schools keeping spare inhalers would be lifted under proposals being issued for consultation in a bid to prevent children dying needlessly from asthma attacks.**

New rules allowing the emergency equipment to be kept in first aid kits are being published by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) following calls led by Stourbridge MP Margot James

by Becky Woods

She hoped they would be in place not long after the start of the new school year.

The blue reliever inhalers most commonly used to treat asthma attacks are prescription-only medicines, which means that schools are not allowed to keep a spare inhaler for emergencies when children do not have their own.

Charity Asthma UK says 1.1 million children with the condition across the UK are at risk because at present, schools are not allowed to keep an extra device in the event of an emergency.

### Cause

The Department of Health confirmed in October that a public consultation into the change in regulations would be launched but timings had been unclear.

It will also look at providing guidance for schools on the use of the devices.

Ms James took up the cause after parents in her Stourbridge constituency raised concerns that Dudley Council had ruled that schools were not allowed to keep an inhaler.

"I am delighted that the MHRA has now launched a consultation on this issue and I certainly encourage all interested parties to re-

spond," she said. "It is vitally important for schools to be able to keep a spare inhaler for use in emergencies, and the change will help safeguard children with asthma, preventing unnecessary hospital admissions or even avoidable deaths."

"The consultation will help to shape the regulations and guidance for schools, and ensure they have the greatest possible impact."

Dr Samantha Walker, deputy chief executive of Charity Asthma, is calling for the consultation to be launched as soon as possible.

She said: "Tragically, attacks can be fatal - the equivalent of a classroom of children die because of asthma every year."

"It simply cannot be overstated just how critical it is for children to be able to get to emergency medicines quickly, especially if they have lost or broken their own inhaler."

The organisation has launched a petition and is urging people to sign it at [www.asthma.org.uk/dan-poulte](http://www.asthma.org.uk/dan-poulte).

It calls on Health Minister Daniel Poulter to launch the consultation.

## 800 years of hall's history on display

VISITORS to Himley Hall will be able to learn about the lives and times of the earls who lived there in an exhibition, Eight Centuries of History, is being staged until September 7.

It celebrates the Archive and Local History Service's major project to catalogue the Earl of Dudley Estate Collection. It highlights some of the documents held in the collection such as the service's oldest item - a papal bull granting churches and land to the Prior of Dudley in 1182.

A papal bull is a particular type of letters patent or charter issued by a Pope of the Catholic Church.

The exhibition includes information panels about the Archive and Local History Service's project to catalogue the work. It is running at the same time as another exhibition, called 40 Years of Watching Paint Dry, featuring the work of fine artist, cartoonist and comedy writer, Geoff Tristram, of Wollaston.

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# X-tra special opportunity for town singing hopefuls

**HAS the Black Country got the X Factor? More than 100 hopefuls flocked to find out if they have what it takes as auditions for the top TV singing talent show came to Dudley**

While usually staged in big arenas, this year the auditions have gone on the road as show bosses scour the country for tomorrow's stars.

They arrived in Dudley last week as singers and musicians waited in the rain for hours outside Dudley Town Hall to get their chance to impress. Queues started forming at around 7.30am, despite auditions not getting under way until noon and those that impressed the show's representatives got the chance to audition for a second time at Birmingham City's football ground, St Andrews, on Thursday.

## Cowell

Singers face up to five elimination rounds before they get to sing in front of Simon Cowell, who this year will be joined by Cheryl Cole and Louis Walsh. The fourth judge is yet to be revealed.

First in line James Davies, aged 20, who sang Angels by Robbie Williams but failed to get through to the second round.

Jamie, from Dudley, spent five hours waiting for his 30 second slot and before his audition said: "I started singing properly about five months ago but have been singing since I was little."

Second in line hoping to wow the judges was Holly Wright, of



Holly Wright was one of the youngest X Factor hopefuls who auditioned at Dudley Town Hall

Forest Drive, Old Hill, and at 14, the teenager was only just old enough to take part. She said: "When they lowered the age I thought why not. I have been singing for four years." The pupil at St Michael's in Rowley Regis sang Clown by Emeli Sandé but did not make it to the next stage.

After more than two hours in the rain, there were smiles all round for three female solo singers who each got a yes.

Kimberley Massey, 28, from Corporation Road, Dudley, was asked back after her version of Misery by Pink.

She said: "I have auditioned



James Davies, aged 20, sang Angels by Robbie Williams but failed to make it to the second round

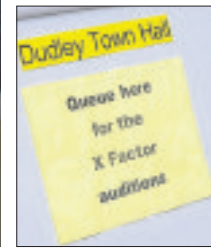
seven times and have got through to the second round every time but I am yet to meet the judges.

"I think it is five rounds before you sing in front of them. I really hope I can make it this year."

Catherine Owen, 28, from Brierley Hill, was also given the green light to go one step closer to the



Clare Hall, Catherine Owen and Kimberley Massey



X marks the spot - the sign outside Dudley Town Hall

judges, after singing Respect. It was her first time auditioning and she said: "I was very nervous but also very excited."

Mother-of-one Clare Hall from Dudley was also put through.

The 25-year-old said: "I really enjoyed my audition."

## Housing estate hit by spate of burglaries

FIVE burglaries have been recorded in two weeks at a housing estate in Tividale.

One of the cases at Trafalgar Court, off New Birmingham Road, has seen an intruder allegedly make off with a resident's tools. There have also been reports of a stranger knocking on doors posing as a bogus official.

Police say residents are reluctant to come forward and speak to officers about criminal activity. It comes after officers said earlier in the year that the flats were in such a poor condition police couldn't tell if reports of criminal damage were genuine.

The owner of eight out of nine blocks of flats there, Trafalgar Court Property Ltd, has previously been fined tens of thousands of pounds for continued failure to deal with repairs. One of the blocks of flats out of nine is, however, well maintained.

Neighbourhood officer Sergeant Sam Archer said: "We have had five burglaries reported in two weeks on this estate. Tenants are reluctant to speak to us and assist police with inquiries."

A meeting has now been called on the estate tomorrow (Friday) at 10am, to which Sandwell Council representatives, private landlords, representatives from the police's anti-social behaviour team, West Midlands Fire Service and Western Power Distribution are all invited.

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# Film homecoming for Dexys singer Rowland

A FEATURE-LENGTH documentary charting the rise of Dexys Midnight Runners, fronted by Wolverhampton-born Kevin Rowland, is set to premiere in London.

The film, called Nowhere is Home, will be shown at NFT1 on London's Southbank on May 9 before heading around the country on tour, including a stop in Wolverhampton.

A spokesperson for Heavenly Films, the team behind the documentary, confirmed there are plans to bring the documentary to Rowland's home city.

The singer was born in Wednesfield and brought up in Blakenhall, and he talks candidly in the trailer for the film about his times as a youth.

## Acclaim

A former pupil at St Mary and St John's Catholic Primary in Snow Hill, Mr Rowland moved to London before attending secondary school, and then returned to the Black Country aged 20 when he lived in Oldbury.

Martin Kelly, from Heavenly Films, said: "There are plans to take the film on tour and there will be a showing in Wolverhampton but the exact venue is yet to be confirmed."

The documentary is set around a show from the band's two week residency at The Duke of York theatre in London, which was met by acclaim from fans and critics.

There are also interviews with Mr Rowland and Jim Paterson, who plays trombone in the band which is now simply known as Dexys.

Mr Kelly said: "Interspersed throughout the film is an honest, revealing and touching interview with Kevin Rowland and Jim Paterson that details the remarkable story of the band. The premiere is on May 9, and



Documentary on Dexys Midnight Runners to be fronted by Kevin Rowland

it isn't due to be finished until May 8 so it will be going down to the wire but we are confident we will make it."

The film was made by BAFTA winner Kieran Evans, who won the award for outstanding debut at this year's ceremony, alongside his friend Paul Kelly. Last year, Mr Rowland was given a honorary degree from University of Wolverhampton, but said he felt 'like a fraud' after dropping out of

school aged 15. In the trailer for the documentary, Mr Rowland talks about how he was a 'no-hoper' after leaving school and drifted from job to job.

He talks about prison being a possibility for him, and the desire he had to succeed in music to get him back on the right track.

Dexys Midnight Runners shot to fame in the summer of 1980 and had a number one hit with Come On Eileen.

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## New creations – and an old favourite

Three Short Works, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham  
BIRMINGHAM Royal Ballet began their home city's fourth international dance festival with a triple bill of three short works showcasing new creations and reviving an old favourite.

BRB dancer Kit Holder followed up his exciting Paper Jam and his 2012 festival offering 9-5 with Quatrain. This angular work with its hanging backdrop of steel sculpture featured

moves inspired by tango danced to brittle music, played on solo violin superbly by Royal Ballet Sinfonia leader Robert Gibbs. Technically demanding movement but lacking tango passion.

The second world premiere piece, by former BRB dancer Alexander Whitley, was also danced to string music. Kin was all about fluid movement and dynamic energy. It began with a lithe and liquid solo from Principal Jenna Roberts. The Australian dancer also

gave an eye-catching performance in the final traditional piece, Les Rendez-vous, a delightful ballet by Frederick Ashton harking back to the company's 1930s origins. The colourful costumes and charming theme of friends meeting in a park was witty and elegant.

Les Rendez-vous will be performed alongside Facade and Dante Sonata in a triple bill at Birmingham Hippodrome from June 4-7.

Leon Burakowski

## Lining up treats for music fans

ICONIC flautist and lead vocalist of Jethro Tull, Ian Anderson is coming to Symphony Hall, Birmingham on Saturday. He is touring on the back of his new album Homo Erraticus.

The Joe Topping Trio will be at the The Red Lion Folk Club, Vicarage Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham the following Wednesday. The trio are Joe, Steve Parry and Jack McCarthy.

It will be a family affair at the MAC Birmingham when two of the best-known names in folk, Martin and Eliza Carthy play there on Saturday.

Wulfrunian Daniel Kirk will be playing an outdoor fundraising concert on Sunday. Daniel is on the bill with a host of others for the Hey Ho! event for Roy Castle's Lung Cancer Foundation. The event is at Highfields Social Club, Barnes Road, Stafford.

The Junction Festival Fundraiser is to be held in Wolverhampton tomorrow at the Clarendon Hotel, Chapel Ash as a taster for the main festival in July.



The launch of Happy Days show with Heidi Range, Ben Freeman and Cheryl Baker

## Musical has plenty of fizz as Happy Days are here again

Happy Days The Musical,  
Birmingham Hippodrome

HEEEYY! Happy Days are here again. And this time in musical form. Ben Freeman starred as everyone's favourite cool guy Fonze, with Heidi Range (Pinky Tuscadero) and Cheryl Baker (Marion Cunningham) also taking lead roles. It was good to see the whole cast given a chance to shine, with everyone in fine voice and faultless in delivery. James Patterson as Howard Cunningham bore the most striking resemblance to their television counterparts.

The Al's Diner everyone knew from TV was replaced by Arnold's for the stage show

and the story centred on the battle to save it from closure. To do so, the Fonz had to wrestle the Malachi brothers. The slow motion fight scenes were very well done and the fast-paced scenery changes ensured the audience kept their eyes on proceedings. It was a watchable production, if short on belly laughs, but with some stand-out lines.

The best line was left to Baker, who presented with a possible list of cocktails to make, quipped: "I have trouble making my mind up" before adding: "Ooh, Bucks Fizz!"

Happy Days The Musical is staged at Wolverhampton Grand from June 8 to 14.

Mark Shipp

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# What's On!

## Flash dancers come Mob-handed

STRICTLY meets street dance in Flash Mob, a show that unites some of the most exciting talents on the dance scene, coming to Wolverhampton and Birmingham this summer.

Britain's Got Talent outfit Flawless will team up with Strictly Come Dancing professionals Kevin Clifton, who was partnered with Susanna Reid, and his fiancé Karen Hauer, who partnered Hairy Biker Dave Myers in the series.

Flash Mob also features contemporary dancers Alleviate and Irish fusion couple Brosena from Sky's Got To Dance, plus Tommy Franzen of So You Think You Can Dance. It is at the New Alexandra Theatre on June 27 and the Grand Theatre on July 15 and 16.

## Singing Cavern true to its name

THE Singing Cavern, deep under Dudley Castle and accessed via the canal tunnel, will live up to its name when Cradley Heath Male Voice Choir perform at this most unusual of venues on Saturday, May 17.

Tickets for the 7.30pm concert cost £10.80 including boat transport in and out of the cavern by Dudley Canal Trust.

The concert is one of a series of events including a screening of silent classic The Phantom of the Opera with live musical accompaniment on June 28 (£15).

For tickets or information contact Dudley Canal Trust on 0121 557 6265.

# French diva of dance is to provide festival highlight

## Rocker Joe joins the War

THERE will be fireworks when the final arena tour of Jeff Wayne's The War of the Worlds comes to Birmingham LG Arena on November 5.

The spectacular show will feature Jason Donovan and West End star Carrie Hope Fletcher. Joining them is Wolverhampton's X Factor rocker Joe Whelan as The Voice of Humanity. The line-up also features X Factor 2005 winner Shayne Ward, Westlife singer Brian McFadden and Jeff Wayne will be conducting the 36-piece Ulladubulla Strings.

Effects include the 35-foot tall Martian Fighting Machine and, for the first time, the Victorian author of The War of the Worlds, HG Wells will appear at the event, via modern technology rather than The Time Machine he wrote about.

Tickets for the sixth and final tour cost £38.50.



The spectacular set for The War of the Worlds, touring arenas for the last time

ONE of the finest dancers of the age will be bringing her dynamism and fluid movement to Birmingham Hippodrome in one of the highlights of Birmingham International Dance Festival.

French ballet and contemporary dancer Sylvie Guillem, who was principal female dancer at the Paris Opera Ballet in the 1980s after her sensational performances as a teen-ager in Rudolf Nureyev's Don Quixote, will present 6,000 Miles Away.

It is a collection of three dance pieces, two in which the 49-year-old dance star features.

### Tempest

Staged on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 6 and 7, the programme devised by Guillem includes choreographer William Forsythe's duet Rearray; Mats Ek's Bye, a solo for Guillem set to music by Beethoven; and ensemble piece 27'52" by Jiri Kylian featuring dancers picked by Guillem.

Canadian choreographer Crystal Pite is influenced by Shakespeare's The Tempest for Tempest Replica being performed by her Kidd Pivot dance company at the Hippodrome tomorrow night (Friday) and Saturday.

The Symphony Hall becomes a dance festival venue for the first time when Quebec's Cas Public team up with the Ex Cathedra choir



Sylvie Guillem in performance

for Concert Danse tomorrow, also featuring Kathak dancer Aakash Odedra and members of Birmingham Royal Ballet. Aakash has his own shows Murmur and Inked at the Patrick Centre in the Hippodrome on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Next Thursday to Saturday Montreal contemporary circus troupe Les 7 doigts de la main (the 7 fingers of the hand) bring their blend of acrobatics, dance and theatre to Birmingham Rep in Sequence 8.

## It's all about McBusted now

MCBUSTED, featuring members of boy bands Busted and McFly, still have a huge following judging by their four gigs at the LG Arena this month.

James Bourne and Matt Willis will join McFly's Tom Fletcher, Danny Jones, Dougie Poynter and Harry Judd to form the six-piece supergroup. So expect to hear Year 3000 and All About You in the same set when McBusted play the LG tomorrow (Friday) and Saturday, then again on May 17 and 27.

The notable absence, former Busted singer Charlie Simpson, continues his solo career after 2012 album Young Pilgrim. Catch up with him at Birmingham's Academy 2 venue on Thursday, May 15.

## Grand illusion will be Infamous

WITH a combination of psychology and showmanship, Derren Brown has made the art of illusion hip again in several TV shows — in which he has regularly baffled and amazed viewers.

But he is probably at his most potent live, as audiences will discover when he brings his show Infamous, the sequel to the hugely popular Svengali, to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Monday to Saturday, May 10.

Tickets cost £32.50-£37.50, call 01902 429212. The show, directed by Andy Nyman, is not suitable for under-12s.

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CHOICE



Rob Brydon

**The Guess List (BBC1, 9.20pm)**  
Lined up in Rob Brydon's comedy crosschairs this week are I'm A Celebrity... winner and tunesmith Kian Egan; Kate Silvertown; David Walliams, Tess Daly and the man he's spent years impersonating, Ronnie Corbett. His golfing buddy proves to be as amiable as ever, especially as he delivers one of the best gags of the night regarding their recent match on the fairway, "Played nine holes," says Ronnie. "Fell down four." The big question is: will contestants James and Jan manage to fill in the (blankety) blanks when asked questions such as: 'According to a recent survey, what most annoys the British public?' Let's hope so.

BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Nigellissima. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **12.45** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** Film: Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa. (2008) Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Ben Stiller.  
**6.30 BBC News;** Regional News.  
**6.50 Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong invites contestants related to the world of crime – either real or fictional – to take part in the game show. They are Lisa Maxwell and Mark Wingett, who starred in The Bill, one-time Crimewatch presenter Sue Cook and investigative journalist Donal MacIntyre. Bad Girls actors Helen Fraser and Jack Ellis, and detective-fiction writers Laura Wilson and Mark Billingham. Who'll be best when it comes to being worst? Richard Osman is the one with the answers.  
**7.40 The National Lottery: In It To Win It.** Dale Winton presents the quiz in which five contestants pit their wits to scoop a big cash prize. Only those in the winners' row will have a chance of taking home the loot, so they will need to get all the answers right – as well as a little bit of luck on their side.  
**8.30 Casualty.** An adult reading lesson ends in disaster when a woman grows jealous of her tutor's girlfriend and inadvertently causes her to end up in hospital suffering from an asthma attack. But that proves to be just the start of the trio's problems. An elderly woman and her two grandchildren make plans to have the best day ever, but things start to go downhill when the granny feels pains in her chest and one of the kids tumbles off a climbing frame. Dixie faces her disciplinary meeting, having moved a patient without permission. Connie raises concerns about Zoe's methods and Fletcher's moonlighting as a taxi driver catches up with him.  
**9.20 The Guess List.** David Walliams, Ronnie Corbett, Kian Egan, Tess Daly and Kate Silvertown help contestants answer all sorts of everyday questions.  
**10.00 BBC News;** Weather.  
**10.20 Match of the Day:** National Lottery Update.  
**11.45 The Football League Show.** **1.05** Weatherover. **1.10** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.00 Film:** Angel Face. (1952) **7.30** Great British Menu. (R) **8.00** Great British Menu. (R) **8.30** Great British Menu. (R) **9.00** Great British Menu. (R) **9.30** Great British Menu. (R) **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The third and penultimate session of the second semi-final. **12.00** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **12.45** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **1.30** Richard Attenborough: Talking Pictures. **2.10** Film: Young Winston. (1972) Biopic of Winston Churchill, starring Simon Ward. **4.30** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The opening semi-final is set to reach a conclusion. **5.30** Natural World: Nature's Misfits. (R)  
**6.30 Flog It!** Presenter Paul Martin is joined by experts Charlie Ross and Mark Stacey to value items in the town of Monmouth, south-east Wales, including a selection of Babar books, a tortoise-shaped box and a pocket globe. (R)  
**7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship.** Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the fourth and final session of the second semi-final at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where the first player to reach 17 frames will progress to the final. Ronnie O'Sullivan and Barry Hawkins were successful at this stage last year, with the Rocket becoming the first defending champion since Ken Doherty in 1998 to reach the final. The commentary team includes Dennis Taylor, Willie Thorne and Stephen Hendry. Subsequent programmes subject to change.  
**9.30 Generation War: Our Mothers, Our Fathers.** Greta has been sent to the Soviet Union by her SS lover Dorn to entertain the troops on the eastern front, meeting Wilhelm, Friedhelm and Charlotte two years after their last encounter. Meanwhile, Viktor is on a train being transported to a concentration camp, but manages to escape with a Polish woman and flees into the forests. Second World War drama, starring Tom Schilling, Volker Bruch and Katharina Schüttler. In German.  
**11.00 Film: What Just Happened?** (2007) A Hollywood producer tries to keep the peace on a movie set, while also struggling with his own family's problems. Comedy drama, starring Robert De Niro and Catherine Keener.  
**12.35 Film:** Surviving Summer. (2009) **2.00** This Is BBC Two. **5.50** Film: The Saint in New York. (1938)

ITV

**6.00 CITV:** Dino Dan. **6.10** Dino Dan. (R) **6.25** Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) **6.50** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.05** Sooby. (R) **7.20** Digimon Fusion. (R) **7.45** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.00** Adventure Time. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.25** ITV News; Weather. **11.35** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **12.30** The Unforgettable Norman Wisdom. (R) **1.00** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **1.45** A Touch of Frost. (R) **3.45** Film: Peter Pan. (2003) **5.50** Regional Programme; Weather.  
**6.00** **ITV News;** Weather.  
**6.15 Let Me Entertain You.** Michael Underwood presents clips of secret performers showing off at work, visitors sing for their Supper at Madame Tussauds and viewers offer their own renditions of Poker Face.  
**6.45 New You've Been Framed!** Harry Hill puts his own spin on a selection of clips filmed by viewers, featuring spanning rituals in Essex and the painful reason why One Direction no longer buy pizza bread.  
**7.15 Britain's Got Talent.** Ant and Dec host the fourth audition show, as Simon Cowell, David Walliams, Amanda Holden and Alesha Dixon give their verdicts on more of the nation's best – and worst – performers.  
**8.30 Amazing Greys.** Young contestants take on old pros, including cyclist Derek Stewart, Olympic gold medalist Mary Peters and veteran DJ David Hamilton. Paddy McGuinness and Angela Rippon host.  
**9.35 Prey.** A detective is wrongly accused of the murders of his wife and son and goes on the run in an attempt to clear his name. Thriller, starring John Simm. (R)  
**10.30 The Americans.** Philip and Elizabeth face painful developments in their missions, while Stan tries to gain access to an American military programme that could give him the upper hand against Oleg.  
**11.30** **ITV News;** Weather.  
**11.45 Through the Keyhole.** Keith Lemon visits three mystery homes and challenges this week's panel – Simon Gregson, Mollie King and Dave Berry – to guess the identities of the occupants. Last in the series. (R)  
**12.40** Jackpot247. **3.00** Dinner Date. Australia. (R) **5.45** ITV NightScreen.

CHANNEL 4

**6.05** The Hoobs. (R) **6.30** Trans World Sport. **7.30** FIM Superbike World Championship. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Weekend Kitchen. **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.50** How I Met Your Mother. **11.20** How I Met Your Mother. **11.45** The Simpsons. (R) **12.15** The Simpsons. (R) **12.45** Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. (R) **1.40** Channel 4 Racing. Including the 2,000 Guineas at 3.50. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **6.15** **Come Dine with Me.** Rebecca Ryan hosts the final dinner party in York, throwing a Hollywood-themed evening of glitz and glamour before the winner is announced. (R)  
**6.40 Channel 4 News.**  
**7.05 For the Love of Cars.** Life on Mars star Philip Glenister and renowned car designer Ant Anstead scour barns and lock-ups across the nation on a mission to restore six classic British motors. (R)  
**8.00 Grand Designs.** Kevin McCloud follows a project to renovate and extend a classic 1920s cinema in Thorne, South Yorkshire. With little knowledge of restoration, Gwyn and Kate boldly set about turning the dilapidated building into a family home using masses of concrete after taking advice from an architect friend. The couple are hoping to create a hydraulic glass wall that opens up one side of the house to form a UV-filtered canopy, and there are also plans for a white roof extension that resembles a diving board. (R)  
**9.00 Film: Green Zone.** (2010) A military officer is sent to Iraq after the downfall of Saddam Hussein on a mission to find the weapons of mass destruction that were used to justify the invasion – only to be warned by a CIA agent that no such devices exist. As he continues his fruitless search, he discovers evidence of a political conspiracy. Paul Greengrass' thriller, starring Matt Damon.  
**11.10** **Film: Escape from Alcatraz.** (1979) A convict tries to break out of the notorious high-security island prison, a feat previously thought impossible. Fact-based drama, starring Clint Eastwood.  
**1.15** Tim Minchin and the Heritage Orchestra. (R) **2.45** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.50** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.45** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) **5.50** The Hoobs. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** Access. **10.05** The Dog Rescuers. (R) **10.30** Beware! Cowboy Builders. (R) **11.30** World's Busiest Border Crossing. (R) **12.30** **Film:** Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes. (1984) Drama, starring Christopher Lambert. **3.05** **Film:** Sands of the Kalahari. (1965) Survival drama, starring Stanley Baker. **5.05** **Film:** The Vikings. (1958) Historical adventure, starring Kirk Douglas and Tony Curtis.  
**7.10** **5 News Weekend.**  
**7.15 Longmire.** A convicted murderer released early from jail is found murdered to death by a bear in the woods and Walt has to open a murder investigation when the man is discovered to have been sedated and baited with steak. Meanwhile, Branch has to deal with his gun-toting uncle causing havoc in his retirement home. Guest starring Peter Weller (RoboCop, 24), who also directed the episode.  
**8.00 NCIS.** The bodies of two dishonourably discharged officers are found on board a boat belonging to Gibbs, and inquiries cast suspicion on his mentor, retired agent Mike Franks. The case proves to have wider implications – and the team finds itself battling to prevent an international confrontation. Starring Mark Harmon, David McCallum, Code de Pablo, Michael Weatherly and Pauley Perrette. (R)  
**9.00 NCIS.** The team delves into Vance's troubled past in a desperate effort to trap a vengeful female assassin named Lee Wuan Kai. Although she is determined to strike back at him by targeting his family, it gradually transpires that there is another deeper motive for her crimes. Crime drama, guest starring Kelly Hu, with Mark Harmon, Rocky Carroll and Pauley Perrette. (R)  
**10.00** **Film: The Bone Collector.** (1999) A quadriplegic ex-cop helps a rookie officer hunt for a serial killer who takes gruesome trophies from his victims' bodies. Thriller, starring Denzel Washington and Angelina Jolie.  
**12.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** World's Busiest Border Crossing. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.10** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Doctor Who **8.40** Top Gear **9.40** Live at the Apollo **10.25** Russell Howard's Good News **11.00** Family Guy **12.50** American Dad! **1.35** Orphan Black **2.20** Sweat the Small Stuff **2.30** Russell Howard's Good News **3.20** Impractical Jokers **3.50** Great TV Mistakes **4.00** Close  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Britain's Natural World **8.00** Byzantium: A Tale of Three Cities **9.00** Film: Blackfish (2013) **10.20** Killer Whales: Beneath the Surface – Natural World **11.20** Neil Sedaka: King of Song **12.20** Neil Sedaka Says: All You Need is the Music **1.05** Top of the Pops: 1979 **1.40** Byzantium: A Tale of Three Cities **2.45** Britain's Natural World **3.45** Close  
**ITV2**  
**11.05** Tom Daley Goes Global **11.25** Britain's Got Talent **1.25** Britain's Got More Talent **2.30** Pixie Lott: The Hot Desk **2.40** Film: The Perfect Man (2005) **4.40** You've Been Framed! Kids Special **5.45** Film: Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace (1999) **8.30** Britain's Got More Talent **9.35** You've Been Framed! **10.05** Celebrity Juice **10.50** Crazy Beaches **11.20** Britain's Got Talent **12.35** Britain's Got More Talent **1.40** Viral Tap **2.15** Dads **2.40** Teleshopping **5.40** ITV2 NightScreen  
**ITV3**  
**11.05** The Darling Buds of May **1.20** Film: The Baby and the Battleship (1956) **3.10** Agatha Christie's Marple **5.15** Foyle's War **7.30** Rosemary & Thyme **8.35** Doc Martin **9.35** Martin Clunes & a Lion Called Muge **10.40** Film: The Life of David Gale (2003) **1.15** Murder, She Wrote **2.10** ITV3 NightScreen **2.30** Teleshopping  
**ITV4**  
**11.00** Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Mumbai Indians v Kings XI Punjab and Delhi Daredevils v Rajasthan Royals. **8.00** All: Still the Greatest **10.00** Film: America (1990) **12.15** Film: Payback (1999) **2.50** Benidorm **2.45** ITV4 NightScreen **3.00** Teleshopping **3.30** The Store **5.00** Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**11.00** The Mindy Project **11.30** Rules of Engagement **2.00** How I Met Your Mother **3.00** The Big Bang Theory **4.00** Made in Chelsea **5.00** How I Met Your Mother **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** How I Met Your Mother **8.00** The Tomorrow People **9.00** Film: Predators (2010) **11.10** The Big Bang Theory **12.05** Rude Tube: Rude Zoo **1.10** The Inbetweeners **2.15** 2 Broke Girls **3.05** Youngers **3.55** Made in Chelsea **4.50** Ugly Betty  
**Film4**  
**11.00** Treasure Island (1972) **1.00** The Perfect Catch (2005) **3.05** The Brady Bunch Movie (1995) **4.50** The Spiderwick Chronicles (2008) **6.40** A Good Year (2006) **9.00** Hot Tub Time Machine (2010) **10.55** District 9 (2009) **1.00** Black Snake Moan (2006) **3.25** Close



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## CHOICE



Philip Glenister

**For the Love of Cars (Channel 4, 8pm)**

All too often, when actors ditch fiction in favour of factual roles, it can end up feeling somewhat awkward – especially if the thesp in question has little knowledge of or enthusiasm for their chosen subject. However, Philip Glenister seems the natural choice to co-present this tempting documentary, alongside renowned car designer Ant Anstead. The six-part series follows the pair as they scour barns and lock-ups across the nation on a mission to restore six classic British motors to their former glory, beginning as Ant tracks down a Triumph Stag in a scrapyard, and sets about giving it a new lease of life.

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team. **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.15** Flop! (R) **3.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.45** Monkey Planet. (R) **4.45** Points of View. **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.45** Pointless Celebrities. (R)

**6.35 BBC News:** Regional News; Weather.

**7.00 Countryfile.** Ellie Harrison explores hills and mountains, including one that is up for sale, and presents archive items on a similar theme, including the challenges of farming on a slope. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

**8.00 Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce and the experts pay a second visit to the Royal Marines Museum in Southsea, near Portsmouth, where members of the public bring along their treasured antiques and collectibles. Items include a Jolly Roger flag flown by the crew of a British submarine during the Second World War, a wine glass that's at the centre of a domestic dispute and a creepy-looking doll.

**9.00 The Crimson Field.** Grace is threatened by Major Ballard, the aggressively rude and war-scarred commander of a Sikh regiment who would rather be with his men than at rest on the wards. She eventually manages to calm him with her knowledge of India but as she tries to discover what has made him so angry, the arrival of another young soldier sets him off again. Can she get to the bottom of her patient's temper? As Joan waits for news from her fiancé, Jaco calls her to an illicit meeting, sparking a series of events which draw her into danger, and Flora decides the volunteers should put on some entertainment to raise spirits – but as the pressure mounts, so do her nerves.

**10.00 BBC News:** Regional News.

**10.25 Have I Got a Bit More News for You.** Jack Dee presents this extended edition of Friday's show, in which Ian Hislop and Paul Merton are joined by comedienne Bridget Christie.

**11.10 Knife Crime ER: Reggie Yates' Extreme South Africa.** Reggie spends a week in one of Cape Town's most impoverished regions.

**12.05** Weatherwise. **12.10** BBC News.

## BBC2

**5.50** The Saint in New York. **6.55** Film: None But the Lonely Heart. (1944) Drama, starring Cary Grant. **8.45** Countryfile. (R) **9.45** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.15** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.45** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **12.30** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **1.15** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **2.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the opening session of the final at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where the first eight frames of the match are scheduled to take place. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

**6.00 Australia** with Simon Reeve. The adventurer begins a journey across the country, discovering how the camel is threatening the fragile desert ecosystem in the heart of Australia. (R)

**7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship.** Hazel Irvine presents all the action from the second session of the final at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre, where a further nine frames are scheduled to take place. The second session of last year's final took on a similar pattern to the first, with Ronnie O'Sullivan winning five frames to move into a 10-7 lead heading into the final day against Barry Hawkins. The threatened victory features five former world champions in Dennis Taylor, Steve Davis, John Parrott, Ken Doherty and Stephen Hendry.

**11.00 QI XL.** Stephen Fry hosts an extended version of the quiz.

**11.45 Film: In Our Name.** (2010) Premiere. A British soldier is haunted by her experiences in Iraq, and becomes increasingly paranoid about her daughter's safety. Drama, starring Joanne Froggatt and Mel Raido.

**1.15 Film: The Big White.** (2005) A cash-strapped travel agent plans to get rich by passing off a corpse as his missing brother and claiming the life insurance. Black comedy, with Robin Williams and Holly Hunter. **2.50** Sign Zone: Countryfile. Matt Baker and Ellie Harrison celebrate icons of the Yorkshire Dales, visiting Bolton Abbey, meeting a Harrogate cycling club and searching for Whitley jet. (R) **3.50** Hobby City. Raf and Amy come under further strain when their IVF dreams suffer another setback. Jac struggles to cope with her manipulative mother and Zosia treats a man she recently dated. (R) **4.50** This Is BBC Two. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: Dino Dan. **6.10** Dino Dan. (R) **6.25** Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) **6.50** Animals. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.20** Digimon Fusion. (R) **7.45** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.00** Big Time Rush. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** May the Best House Win. (R) **10.25** Film: Columbo Cries Wolf. (1990) **12.25** ITV News: Weather. **12.30** Big Star's Little Star. (R) **1.35** You've Been Framed! (R) **2.05** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **3.20** Let Me Entertain You. (R) **3.50** Film: Licence to Kill. (1989) Spy thriller, starring Timothy Dalton.

**6.20 Regional Programme:** Weather. **6.30** ITV News: Weather.

**6.45 Catchphrase.** Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show in which three contestants guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clips, before one of them plays to win £50,000.

**7.30 Oh Their Rockers.** Seb takes a shower in an unexpected place, Rosie and Marry try out an unusual selling technique and Sonia gets in trouble with the law again. Hidden-camera comedy.

**8.00 Vera.** The detective is called in when David Kenworthy, the son of a prominent local family, is found murdered on the beach at Whitley Bay. A witness spotted arcade owner Larry Crowe arguing with David on the night of the killing, and a search of the suspect's property uncovers a bloodied baseball bat. However, Larry has a cast-iron alibi and it's clear he wasn't the only person the victim met that night. A second death then leaves Vera facing mounting pressure to crack the case, and struggling to answer the question of why David was drawn to the seafloor on the evening of his father's retirement.

**10.00 Perspectives – The Man in the Hat: Rene Magritte with Will Young.** A fan of Rene Magritte since the age of 15, singer and actor Will Young travels to the surrealist artist's native Belgium to explore his life, work and legacy.

**11.00** ITV News: Weather.

**11.15 Premiership Rugby Union.** Highlights of the best top-flight fixtures, featuring Bath v Northampton Saints, Exeter Chiefs v Harlequins and Sale Sharks v Leicester Tigers.

**12.15** The Store. **2.45** Motorsport UK. **3.35** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **4.20** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

## CHANNEL 4

**6.15** British GT. **6.40** How I Met Your Mother. **7.05** How I Met Your Mother. **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.35** Secret Eaters. (R) **1.40** Channel 4 Racing. Including the 1,000 Guineas at 3.50. **4.10** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **4.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **5.05** The Simpsons. (R) **5.35** Deal or No Deal.

**3.30 Channel 4 News.**

**7.00 Bear's Wild Weekend** with Stephen Fry. Bear Grylls takes the actor, writer and QI host on an expedition to one of the most spectacular mountain ranges in Europe. Over the course of two days high in the Italian Dolomites, the survival expert pushes Fry to his limits with a series of challenges – travelling on the skids of a helicopter, descending a terrifying 500ft waterfall, sleeping in a First World War trench and abseiling down a towering cliff face. (R)

**8.00 For the Love of Cars.** Ant Anstead tracks down the original Stag in a scrapyard and sets about restoring it to its former glory, while Philip Glenister meets members of the Stag owners' club in an attempt to understand whether the vehicle's reputation for unreliability is fair. From a European road trip with comedian and motoring journalist Alexei Sayle, to pitting the classic car against the Jaguar E-Type in a battle of the best-sounding engines, Philip and Ant come to a surprising conclusion about the Stag.

**9.00 Fargo.** Malvo does the unexpected in the blackmail operation, Molly sets a trap, Gus debates whether he should come clean and Lester's return to work has complicated repercussions.

**10.00 Film: Underworld: Awakening.** (2012) Premiere. Vampire Selene awakes from cryonic suspension to battle mutant werewolves and a human plot to annihilate the undead. Action fantasy, with Kate Beckinsale and India Eisley.

**11.45 Film: Babel.** (2006) An American couple's holiday in Morocco becomes an international crisis when one of them is accidentally shot. Drama, starring Brad Pitt, Kate Blanchett and Gael Garcia Bernal.

**2.15** Southland. **3.05** The Hotel. (R) **4.00** SuperScrimps' Challenge. (R) **4.55** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R) **5.15** Deal or No Deal. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowerpots. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.40** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloë's Closet. **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Maddy. (R) **7.35** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.50** Milkshake! Bop Box. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.20** Milkshake! Bop Box. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers Super Samurai. (R) **10.35** Power Rangers Megaforce. (R) **11.10** Access. (R) **11.15** The Dog Rescuers. (R) **11.45** Secret History of UFOs. (R) **12.40** Aliens: Are We Alone? (R) **1.45** Film: Thunderbirds. (2004) Sci-fi adventure, starring Bill Paxton. **3.25** Film: Open Season. (2006) Animated comedy, with the voice of Martin Lawrence. **5.00** Film: Mulan. (1998) Disney animated adventure, with the voices of Ming-Na and Eddie Murphy.

**6.40 5 News Weekend.**

**6.45 Film: Stargate.** (1994) An Egyptologist and a soldier head an expedition through a mysterious portal to an alien planet. The world they find resembles ancient Egypt and is under the rule of a tyrant who has convinced the downtrodden inhabitants that he is a god – until the humans incite the enslaved populace to fight back. Sci-fi adventure, starring Kurt Russell, James Spader and Jaye Davidson.

**9.00 Film: War of the Worlds.** (2005) A divorced father tries to protect his two children as alien war machines start to wipe out the human race. Steven Spielberg's sci-fi thriller, with Tom Cruise and Dakota Fanning.

**11.10 Film: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story.** (2004) The struggling owner of a run-down gym tries to save his business by forming a team for the US dodgeball championships. Sporting comedy, starring Ben Stiller and Vince Vaughn.

**1.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** Boozie: Bust-Ups & Brothels: Soho Blues. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Top Gear **7.50** Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl (2003) **10.00** In the Flesh **11.00** Family Guy **11.45** Jamie: Private School Girl **12.45** In the Flesh **1.40** Sweat the Small Stuff **2.10** Impractical Jokers **2.40** Bamboo **3.00** In the Flesh **4.00** Close

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** The Rabbits of Skomer **7.10** Film: In Which We Serve (1942) **9.00** Easter Island: Mysteries of a Lost World **10.30** The Wonder of Bees with Martha Kearney **11.00** Frank Sinatra: The Voice of the Century – Arena Special **12.35** Sings the Great American Songbook **1.35** Top of the Pops: The Story of 1978 **2.25** Easter Island: Mysteries of a Lost World **3.55** Close

**ITV2**  
**12.05** You've Been Framed! **12.35** Film: Beethoven (1991) **2.20** Funniest Ever You've Been Framed! **3.20** You've Been Framed! **4.20** Britain's Got Talent **5.45** Britain's Got More Talent **6.45** You've Been Framed! **7.15** Film: Star Wars: Episode I – Attack of the Clones (2002) **10.00** Viral Top **10.50** Film: White Chicks (2004) **1.05** Viral Top **1.45** Mom **2.10** The Vampire Diaries **2.55** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

**ITV3**  
**11.20** The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes **12.25** Agatha Christie's Marple **2.35** Rosemary & Thyme **3.40** Goodbye Mr Chips **5.40** Inspector Morse **8.00** The Zoo **9.00** Birds of a Feather **9.30** Vicious **10.00** Film: Intolerable Cruelty (2003) **12.10** Cracker **1.15** Agatha Christie's Marple **2.50** Judge Judy **3.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale

**ITV4**  
**11.00** Live British Touring Car Championship Round three from Thruxton. **6.30** BRDC Formula 4 Championship Highlights **7.30** Storage Wars **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00** Indian Premier League Cricket **10.00** Film: Senna (2010) **12.15** River Monsters **1.20** Warren United **1.50** Benidorm **2.20** Highway Patrol **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **3.30** The Store **5.00** Teleshopping

**E4**  
**12.35** Made in Chelsea **1.35** Revenge **2.35** The Big Bang Theory **3.30** How I Met Your Mother **5.00** The Tomorrow People **6.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** Film: Bride Wars (2009) **10.15** The Inbetweeners **11.05** Rude Tube: Rude Zoo **12.10** How I Met Your Mother **1.05** Rules of Engagement **2.00** 2 Broke Girls **2.25** The Ricky Gervais Show **3.20** Hollyoaks

**Film4**  
**11.00** Titanic (1953) **1.00** 10 Things I Hate About You (1999) **2.55** Big Fish (2003) **5.20** From Up on Poppy Hill (2011) **7.10** Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer (2007) **9.00** Star Trek (2009) **11.25** House of Flying Daggers (2004) **1.45** Far North (2007) **3.40** Close

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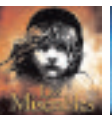
Both breaks include a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast (plus dinner for Dine and Dance options).

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\*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.

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Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions



## Film Choices

### MONDAY

#### National Treasure, BBC1, 3.45pm

An intrepid treasure-hunter follows a series of ingenious clues in a perilous quest to track down a war chest hidden by America's founding fathers generations before. He has to contend with determined rivals in the shape of a treacherous associate and the FBI. Action adventure, starring Nicolas Cage, Diane Kruger, Sean Bean and Justin Bartha. (2004)

### TUESDAY

#### Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, ITV, 7.30pm

The adolescent wizard is unexpectedly chosen to represent Hogwarts School in a prestigious magical tournament, despite being legally too young to enter. He joins champions of three magical academies to face deadly monsters in a series of challenges. Meanwhile, the followers of the dreaded Lord Voldemort plot to restore their master to the land of the living. Fourth instalment of the fantasy saga, starring Daniel Radcliffe, Robbie Coltrane, Ralph Fiennes, Michael Gambon, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Brendan Gleeson and Robert Pattinson. (2005)



National Treasure, Monday, BBC1, 3.45pm

### WEDNESDAY

#### The Boat That Rocked, ITV, 10.35pm

A host of eclectic DJs entertain 1960s Britain through a pirate radio station, broadcasting from a vessel in the North Sea. However, a high-ranking government official is determined to bring an end to the rogue outfit and the individuals responsible for its continued existence. Richard Curtis's comedy, starring Bill Nighy, Rhys Ifans, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Kenneth Branagh and Nick Frost. (2009)

### THURSDAY

#### Her Husband's Betrayal, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman is suspicious of her husband's strange behaviour and starts spying on him. She thinks she has caught him having an affair, only to find the truth is far worse – he has committed a murder and framed her for it, and threatens to kill her son if she does not confess to the crime. Thriller, starring Jacqueline MacInnes Wood and Shawn Roberts. (2013)

### FRIDAY

#### GoldenEye, ITV, 10.35pm

James Bond heads for Russia to investigate the connection between the theft of an experimental helicopter and an orbital satellite weapon with the power to devastate entire cities. He discovers both have fallen into the hands of a mysterious criminal mastermind with a grudge against Britain and a connection with 007's past. Spy adventure, with Pierce Brosnan, Sean Bean, Izabella Scorupco and Famke Janssen. (1995)

## Pick of the Week

# James lives the dream as duo hit the road

There's a theory that at some point in recent years James Corden and Gary Barlow signed a deal which ensured they would dominate British TV screens for a chunk of the Noughties, and beyond.

Given the former's work on Gavin & Stacey, not to mention his success on stage, there's perhaps little wonder. As for Gary, well he's more ubiquitous than Deirdre Barlow these days, with assorted excellent shows, whether raising money for Comic Relief, visiting the troops in Afghanistan or welcoming in the New Year in a dazzling BBC1 extravaganza.

We didn't really need another show paying tribute to the multi-award winning singer/songwriter, although with an online campaign attempting to get one of his old singles to number one, there is an added degree of topicality. So settle back 'GBArmy' and Cordenties and enjoy their version of The Trip.

No impressions of Ronnie Corbett alas, but we do follow Gary's long

career, from how it began; the Take That phenomenon; the wilderness years, and the darker times which inspired his lyrics.

After a lengthy intro, in which James loads up Gary's Range Rover with random items of baggage, they talk about stag dos and the fact that Barlow has chosen now to make a documentary like this to "close the door on a pretty rubbish time". Of course given the fact he's just performed at a sold out arena tour around the UK, it's easy to forget that a decade ago there seemed little chance of that being possible.

In 2004, Take That were history. Barlow's debut album wasn't the success many had hoped for, and it looked like his days under the spotlight had come and gone.

However, in recent years he's staged a Lazarus-like comeback, scoring a string of chart smashes as the reformed Take That rekindled the interest of their fans, and won over a new generation of followers. Their hugely successful gigs, either as a four piece or with original group

member Robbie Williams, wowed the masses, while Barlow's aforementioned solo shows left his thousands of fans hoarse with delight.

In this show, he and James visit key places in Gary's career, including the Working Men's Club where Barlow learned his craft with 600 or so performances. "I've always felt older, and I've always felt, whether I was in the band or whatever situation I was in, I was the responsible one," Gary tells James. First stop is the studio where Barlow and his band rehearse for the gigs while a starstruck Corden looks on.

Then there's a trip down memory lane as we are treated to clips and photos from Gary's formative years; his impressive rendition of The Way You Make Me Feel, complete with stage kick is priceless. Later, they visit the nightclub where Take That first auditioned, and there are laughs as Gary surprises one of his own fans on their wedding day. Among the contributors are Elton John, Robbie, Gary's mother and members of the Press and music industry.



When Corden Met Barlow, Monday, BBC1, 9pm

## Best of the Rest

### MONDAY

#### Draw It!

##### Channel 4, 4.30pm

Remember the 1990s series Win, Lose or Draw, in which two teams comprising of celebrities and ordinary mortals competed in a game that involved one person drawing an object or phrase, and the others guessing what they're attempting to depict? Well, it's back – sort of. Draw It! is certainly along very similar lines, a kind of TV version of Pictionary in which two teams – one headed by Nadia Sawalha, the other by Anton du Beke and both featuring a member of the public – tackle timed drawing challenges. After three rounds, the team with the least points leaves, and the one remaining takes part in a final game that could see them win a bundle, or walk away with nothing. Mel Giedroyc hosts.

#### The Island with Bear Grylls

##### Channel 4, 9pm

We may moan about how stressful and demanding it is, but is modern life actually dulling our survival instincts? This new series find out if British men still now how to rough it, as adventurer Bear Grylls takes a group of 13 blokes and essentially abandons them on a remote, uninhabited Pacific island with just the clothes on their backs and a few basic tools. Will they resort to rise to challenge, or will they resort to Lord of the Flies-style savagery, interspersed with bouts of sobbing? Just making it through the first episode is going to be tough, as Bear drops the group of at their new home, where they are forced to battle through dense overgrowth in search of shelter.

### TUESDAY

#### Miller's Mountain

##### BBC1, 10.40pm

The Beeb has dusted down the Comedy Playhouse format in the hope of finding a gem of an idea worth turning a full series. Last week we were treated to the promising Over to Bill, while this time it's Miller's Mountain, which focuses on the antics of Jimmy Miller and his fellow Mountain Rescue volunteers. Veteran Jimmy takes new volunteer Conor under his wing, introducing him to dog-obsessed Bill, chirpy head of operations Bernie and Jules, the local pub barmaid. All seems to go well until somebody actually needs to be rescued from the nearby mountain... Jimmy Chisholm, Kevin Guthrie and Sharon Rooney head the cast. Will we see it in the future as a series? Only time will tell...

### WEDNESDAY

#### The Supervet

##### Channel 4, 8pm

You can tell Noel Fitzpatrick is no ordinary animal doctor – for a start, he has two very cool nicknames. According to the title of this new series, he's the Supervet but he's also known as the Bionic Vet – and that's because he runs one of the most advanced practices in Britain. Neil and his team of over a hundred surgeons, nurses, ward attendants and physiotherapists use some of the most cutting-edge treatments available to cure pets from

across the country that might otherwise be considered beyond saving. In this first episode, David, Gill and their son Freddie are pinning their hopes on Noel as their Labrador Scooby battles a life-threatening tumour in his leg.

#### Billy Connolly's Big Send Off

##### ITV, 9pm

Death doesn't have to be morbid – just ask Billy Connolly. The stand-up comedian has always been fascinated with how people deal with their own mortality, and in this documentary he's looking at the many different beliefs and rituals that surround it. He explains: "I'm going to strip away the taboos to reveal that far from the doom and gloom you may expect, the world of death is full of wonderful people doing some extraordinary things." It's a journey that begins at the National Funeral Directors Association convention in Texas, where death is big business, and the items up for sale include an eco death-suit threaded with mushroom spores, which helps to turn corpses into compost.



Billy Connolly's Big Send Off, Wednesday, ITV, 9pm

### THURSDAY

#### Posh Pawn

##### Channel 4, 8pm

Some TV shows naturally lend

themselves to workplace discussion the next day. Not so much Posh Pawn, for fear of being overheard and misunderstood. Dodgy homophones aside, though, this series following high-end pawnbroker James Constantinou is proving endlessly entertaining. This week, a former model named Cathy wants to start her own lingerie business, and so brings in her collection of designer bags and jewellery in the hope of securing a £50,000 loan. Meanwhile, James attracts the wrong kind of attention when he takes a client's Ferrari for a spin, and an inventor decides it's time he parted with his precious watch.

### FRIDAY

#### The Minster

##### BBC2, 8pm

New documentary series filmed over the course of a year that goes behind the scenes at York Minster, beginning during the busy run-up to Easter as head verger Alex Carberry has to overcome a fear of heights to drape a cloth over a giant crucifix. The cathedral's own police force responds to an emergency call and stonemasons prepare to carve a new version of the mysterious weathered figure at the pinnacle of the east window.

#### The Trip to Italy

##### BBC2, 10pm

Steve's son Joe and his assistant Emma join him and Rob on the final leg of their culinary tour of Italy as they take the ferry from Naples to Capri, where they have lunch at Il Riccio. Afterwards, Rob asks Emma for advice about whether he should go back to Lucy.

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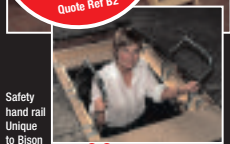


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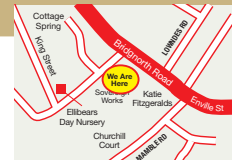
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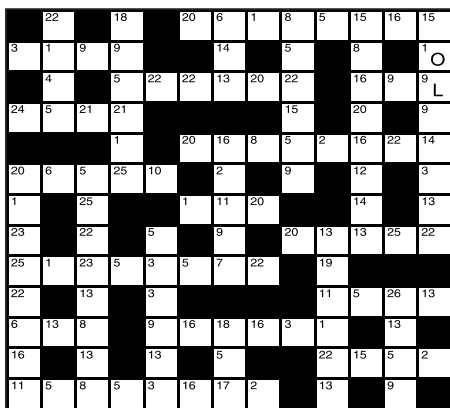
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## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
B	H	X	S	O	D	R	W	K	M	U	J	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
N	L	V	T	E	Y	P	F	C	I	Z	A	G

1	O	14
2		15
3		16
4		17
5		18
6		19
7		20
8		21
9	L	22
10		23
11		24
12		25
13		26

## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

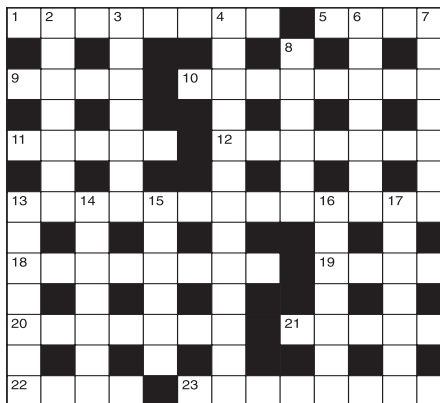
### Cryptic Clues:

### Across

1. Justice characteristic of the Scandinavians (8)
5. Very keen to do a turn as a singer (4)
9. 50 amp. bulb? (4)
10. Lend a car out as something for daily use (8)
11. It's sung in pleasantly rich surroundings (5)
12. Cow-catchers? (7)
13. They figure a great deal in population surveys (13)
18. Exit angrily, to destroy (5,3)
19. He's on about being present (4)
20. Noise or disturbance can be wearing (7)
21. There's space to travel in it (5)
22. Trifles - child's play really (4)
23. Influence of a converted priest, for example (8)

**Down**

2. He studies make-up (7)
3. Create a fresh impression (7)
4. Hot-looking athlete or climber (7-6)
6. Huntress follows in a state (7)
7. Stops and takes into custody (7)
8. Decimal used in some tricky calculations (6)
13. His guilt is a possibility (7)
14. Perhaps to many a branch of medicine (7)
15. Harm one thousand and two (6)
16. People who do so get what's coming to them (7)
17. Dealing with someone with a complaint (7)



**Quick Clues:**

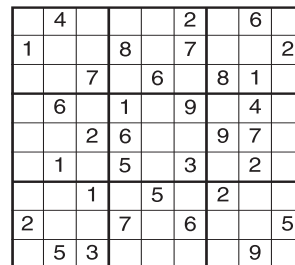
### Across

1. Vigorous (8)
5. Possesses (4)
9. Boast (4)
10. Sticky (8)
11. Rash (5)
12. Slumberer (7)
13. Some time (6,2,5)
18. Check (8)
19. Depravity (4)
20. Italian wine (7)
21. Sag (5)
22. Near (4)
23. Replied (8)

## Down

2. Violent wind (7)
3. Alleviate (7)
4. Ill-health (13)
5. Racing dog (7)
6. Clipper (7)
7. Disclose (6)
8. Opponent of the Crusaders (7)
9. Ejecting (7)
10. Mission (6)
11. Unfavourable (7)
12. Envelop (7)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

## LAST WEEK'S

4	5	6	3	9	2	1	8
3	2	1	4	7	8	6	5
9	8	7	6	1	5	2	4
6	7	3	1	4	9	8	2
8	4	9	2	5	6	7	3
2	1	5	7	8	3	4	9
1	3	2	9	6	4	5	7
7	9	8	5	2	1	3	6
5	6	4	8	3	7	9	1

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:  
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Record; 4 Spread; 9 Debt-collector; 10 Calls up; 11 Aired; 12 Light; 14 Relay; 18 Cream; 19 Incense; 21 Cheerlessness; 22 Attest; 23 Beaten. Down: 1 Reduce; 2 Co-belligerent; 3 Races; 5 Prelate; 6 Entrance; 7 Deride; 8 Slips; 13 Humerus; 15 Acaria; 16 Vices; 17 Reason; 20 Caste. QUICK - Across: 1 Modest; 4 Stable; 9 Miscellaneous; 10 Lingers; 11 Ether; 12 Sever; 14 Users; 18 Sinful; 19 Reprieve; 21 Entertainment; 22 Desal; 23 Chase; 24 Down; 1 Mumble; 2 Disintegrate; 3 Shave; 5 Tenders; 6 Brotherliness; 7 Ensure; 8 Close; 13 Emperor; 15 Ascend; 16 Ideal; 17 Settle; 20 Pinch.

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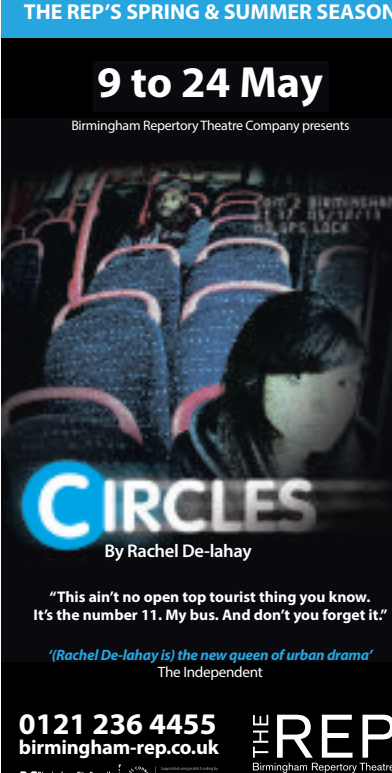
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## Ales on offer at castle spring fair

THE countdown is on to a major Spring festival in Shropshire and organisers have lined up a host of attractions for the three-day spectacular. Ludlow Spring Festival features a festival within the festival – of beer.

The festival runs from May 9-11 at Ludlow Castle and the opening Friday night, from 5-9pm, will feature a beer tent, live music, food and a Meet the Brewers event. Entry to the beer tent on Friday is £2 and there will be live music from The Hip Joints. The Spring festival is open from 5-9pm on the Friday, from 10am-9pm on May 10 and from 10am-5pm on May 11.

A one-day ticket for either the Saturday or Sunday costs £6 for adults, £1.50 for children and £15 for a family of two adults and up to four children under 14. For more information: [www.ludlowspringfestival.co.uk](http://www.ludlowspringfestival.co.uk)

# Advisers aiming to help cut road congestion on busy route

**HUNDREDS of families living along one of the Black Country's busiest bus routes will be visited by 'travel advisers' under a scheme to tackle congestion on major routes.**

West Midlands transport authority Centro is providing free travel packs for hundreds of homes along sections of the busy No4 route in Sandwell.

Over the next five months travel advisers will visit up to 5,000 homes along the route to help those wanting to make the switch to public

transport, car-sharing, walking or cycling.

The first advisers will hit the streets on May 5 in Blackheath and Cradley Heath, and will draw up bespoke travel packs in a bid to tackle congestion and help residents beat petrol and parking costs.

Rachel Evans, Centro's education and community team leader, said: "We have already invested into improving infrastructure in this area to reduce the congestion that can sometimes occur and bespoke travel advice can support this. This route is an important one in connecting residents to key places like West Bromwich

town centre and Sandwell College and our advisers will help tailor travel packs to suit each household's specific needs."

The scheme has been launched as part of Centro's Smart Network, Smarter Choices carbon cutting project. It comes on the back of more than £1 million invested by Centro and Sandwell Council in improving traffic flow on the route, which connects Blackheath with Walsall. The work has seen more changes to junctions and bus priority measures and crossings have been upgraded. Visit [www.mynetwork.org.uk](http://www.mynetwork.org.uk) for details.

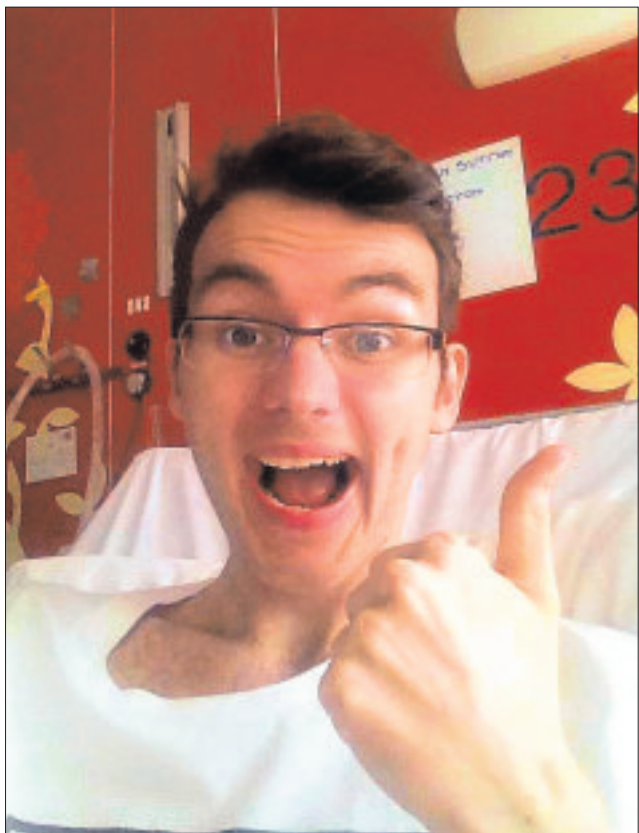
## Giraffe need English lessons

WEST Midland Safari Park has added five giraffe to its collection as part of a Europe-wide breeding programme.

After an initial quarantine period of 30 day, all five received extra indoor care during the wettest winter on record. They can now be seen in the African Plains area of the four-mile drive through the attraction at Bewdley, near Kidderminster.

Head keeper Noel Carey said: "For those animals raised in the UK, settling down was relatively easy. For those arriving from Europe, it was a different matter. It was evident that as the keepers chatted to them in English, the giraffe appeared quite bemused. We can only surmise that the giraffe simply didn't know what the keepers were talking about!"

## Stephen celebrates £3m mark



A new thumbs up photograph from inspirational Staffs teenager Stephen Sutton

DYING teenager Stephen Sutton's fundraising drive has smashed the £3 million mark. The cancer patient from Burntwood has released a new 'thumbs up' photograph of himself as donations continued to flood in for his fundraising appeal for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

He has captured the hearts of millions of people throughout the world with his inspirational fight against the disease.

The 19-year-old is in hospital after his condition deteriorated but he has shown improvements after coughing up a tumour. He has been battling cancer for three years and is fundraising for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

Posting his new picture online he wrote: "One week ago I posted a 'thumbs up farewell' photo that went viral. As mentioned, at that point a genuinely thought I was a

goner but one week on I'm still here!"

"Overall my time here will still be cut significantly short by my illness (but I've known that anyway for a while anyway). Coughing up that tumour has helped hugely but headlines of 'on the mend' are shortsighted and perhaps misleading. I am still ravaged by tumours elsewhere that will and are currently harming me.

"But with my breathing fine and no other acute medical problems at the moment, we can optimistically look forward to a period of 'future' that at the beginning of the week seemed impossible."

Comedian Jason Manford held a one-off gig at Players' Bar in Birmingham on Sunday and said he hoped the fund would go on to reach £5m for the Teenage Cancer Trust. Stephen's fundraising has broken all records held by donating website JustGiving.

## MP joins mental health 999 patrol

AN MP has joined a paramedic, police officer and mental health nurse to see how a pilot scheme is helping patients.

It sees a dedicated mental health team attend ambulance calls to ensure patients receive appropriate care.

James Morris, MP for Halesowen and Rowley Regis, joined the Birmingham-based team at an incident to see how it helps mental health patients.

Since its launch in January as a pilot between West Midlands Ambulance Service, West Midlands Police and Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Trust, the scheme has dealt with more than 700 incidences.

Robert Cole, the ambulance service's head of clinical practice for mental health, said: "That's 700 patients that have been given dignified and appropriate mental health care. Mr Morris, who is chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Mental Health, added: "This new street triage scheme is a fantastic initiative."

## Chance to see library

A BISHOP'S books will be on show to visitors to the Worcestershire County Museum, Hartlebury, during a talk and tour at the Hurd Library.

The talk, entitled A Bishop & His Books, will take place on May 15 at 11am by Christine Penney, Hurd Librarian, on the life of Bishop Richard Hurd, who once lived at Hartlebury Castle. Tickets cost £16, including lunch, and must be booked in advance by calling 01299 250416.

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# An immaculate and extended family home



**AN immaculate and extended three-bedroomed double fronted property in Culmore Road, Halesowen, is positioned in a sought after tree-lined road.**

It is for sale through Humberstones Homes at £214,950.

With double glazing and gas central heating it has an entrance hall with stairs to the first floor, a lounge with a feature fire surround with a hearth mounted living flame-effect gas fire and double doors to the garden, dining area with laminate flooring, a kitchen with a stainless steel oven and hob with cooker hood, a utility room with a sink, WC, study/playroom, three bedrooms, a re-fitted bathroom with a white suite, a bath with shower over and screen, low level WC, wash basin with cupboard, tiled flooring, a heated towel rail and down lighters. Call 0121 6787788 or visit the site [www.humberstoneshomes.co.uk](http://www.humberstoneshomes.co.uk)



## An executive home that has plenty of parking

A SPACIOUS four-bedroomed detached house in Charlemont Road, West Bromwich has a conservatory, a substantial landscaped and private rear garden, two garages and plenty of parking.

Ideal for the larger family, it is for sale through Paul Dubberley at £299,950.

With gas central heating it has an entrance hall, lounge with feature fireplace, dining room with bay window and feature fireplace, kitchen and a door to a pantry with storage, white coloured units and a downstairs WC, spacious conservatory with doors to the garden. Upstairs are four bedrooms and fully tiled bathroom.

Contact Paul Dubberley on 0121 5255520 or visit [t.ww.pauldubberley.co.uk](http://t.ww.pauldubberley.co.uk)



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# AUCTION

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### Charles Avenue K'minster DY10 2YN

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AUCTION GUIDE PRICE  
£80,000-£90,000

### Clarence St., Kidderminster DY10 1RS

Spacious mid-terraced late Victorian dwelling house within this popular street. Offering accommodation over four floors including - Cellar. Living Room. Dining Room. Wing extension Kitchen & Bathroom/w.c. Three double Bedrooms. Requires a degree of refitting/refurbishment. Energy Rating TBC



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE  
£75,000-£90,000

### East Street Kidderminster DY10 1SF

A freehold Victorian mid terraced house arranged over three floors, requiring refurbishment and re-fitting. GROUND FLOOR: Living Room, Kitchen. FIRST FLOOR: Bedroom and Bathroom. SECOND FLOOR: Attic Bedroom. Outside there is a small garden which is NOT overlooked from the rear. Vacant possession upon completion. Immense further potential. Energy Rating E.



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE  
£50,000-£70,000

### Summer Road Kidderminster DY11 7JS

A spacious two double bedroom semi-detached bungalow requiring a degree of refurbishment/repair. Living Room. Kitchen. Shower Room. Attic/Loft. Double Glazed. Part gas to radiator central heating. Good size plot. Energy Rating E



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE  
£80,000-£95,000

### Areley Common Stourport DY13 0NG

A Victorian mid terraced cottage enhanced with a large modern wing extension. The property has a great position right in the heart of Areley Kings plus a large level garden extending to approximately 127 feet in depth. 2 Reception rooms, Kitchen, bathroom, 2 double bedrooms, immense further potential. Energy Rating D



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE  
£75,000-£95,000

### Trimpley Drive Kidderminster DY11 5LB

A 3-bedroom semi detached house having a south-east facing rear garden and being nicely located with a non-estate cul-de-sac position near to the Franche/Ferndale area of town, close to wide ranging local amenities and good local schools. Energy Rating E



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE  
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Tel: 01746-767488 Fax: 01746-767081  
email: [bridgnorth@phippsandpritchard.co.uk](mailto:bridgnorth@phippsandpritchard.co.uk)



# Mock Tudor home sited on a good corner plot



A UNIQUE mock Tudor detached family residence on a splendid corner position in the highly regarded area of Broadway North, Walsall, has the advantage of additional off-road parking.

It is for sale through Fraser Wood at £375,000. With gas central heating and double glazing it has a reception hall, through lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen, utility room, lobby, cloakroom, five bedrooms, an en-suite shower room, luxury bathroom, long block paved driveway, gardens with a paved patio area. Contact 01922 627686 or visit [www.fraser-wood.co.uk](http://www.fraser-wood.co.uk)



# Four bedrooms in a Stone Cross bungalow



A DETACHED four-bedroomed bungalow in Bustleholme Lane, Stone Cross, West Bromwich has recently come on to the market.

With a walled and gated frontage, it is for sale via Bartrams at £295,000.

With central heating and double glazing it has a reception hall with a wood burning fire and tiled flooring and a feature cast iron turned staircase to the first floor, a front facing dining room with a bay window, a lounge with wall mounted electric fire and bay window, a bathroom with chrome heated towel rail, splash back tiling, three piece suite with a corner bath, bedroom one has tiled en suite and wardrobes, a kitchen with light wood units, electric hob and cooker, dishwasher, conservatory/lean-to with storage, a garage, of the three other bedrooms one has fitted wardrobes. Contact Bartrams on 0121 6019370 or visit [www.bartrams.com](http://www.bartrams.com)



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<b>UPPER GORNAL</b>  <b>KENT STREET</b> <b>£350 pcm*</b> Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom with shower, Off Road Parking, Double Glazing, Unfurnished	<b>WOODSETTON</b>  <b>SEDGLEY ROAD</b> <b>£525 pcm*</b> Terraced Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Rear Garden	<b>STOURBRIDGE</b>  <b>EVOLUTION</b> <b>£550 pcm*</b> Top Floor Flat, Entry, Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Allocated Parking, Unfurnished	<b>COSELEY</b>  <b>SALCOMBE GROVE</b> <b>£545 pcm*</b> Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens
<b>PENSNETT</b>  <b>CORBYNS HALL ROAD</b> <b>£540 pcm*</b> Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Gardens	<b>SEDGLEY</b>  <b>CROSS LANE</b> <b>£625 pcm*</b> Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, WC, Four Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking	<b>SEDGLEY</b>  <b>QUEENS ROAD</b> <b>£796 pcm*</b> Detached House, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, W.C., Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Single Garage, Parking for 2 cars, Front & Rear Gardens, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing	<b>NETHERTON</b>  <b>PURLIN WHARF</b> <b>£550 pcm*</b> Modern Apartment, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, En Suite, Bathroom, - Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Allocated Parking
<b>KINGSWINFORD</b>  <b>KEYES DRIVE</b> <b>£425 pcm*</b> Ground Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, One bedroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Front and Rear Gardens	<b>GORNAL</b>  <b>OX STREET</b> <b>£585 pcm*</b> Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished.	<b>WOMBOURNE</b>  <b>COMMON ROAD</b> <b>£595 pcm*</b> First Floor Flat, Entrance, Large Lounge, Good Sized Kitchen/Diner, Four Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Parking at Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished	<b>KINGSWINFORD</b>  <b>STANDHILLS ROAD</b> <b>£595 pcm*</b> Semi Detached House, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished
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# Exciting . . . propositions

## Commercial feature

**Vauxhall's sixth generation Astra faces far tougher Focus-class family hatchback competition than it did at launch back in 2009.**

Hence a welcome package of improvements that has brought a smarter look, extra efficiency and slicker technology. It's more than enough to keep this car amongst the top three best sellers in the segment.

Here we home in on the Astra's Excite trim level priced from £19,845 on the-road. It's currently available with a £2,000 Deposit Contribution from Vauxhall. What's more, there's up to 5-year's 0% APR Representative flexible finance and Vauxhall includes a £2,000\*Deposit Contribution in with the current deal.

With the Astra Excite you can choose between eight exterior colours. It comes

comprehensively equipped, too, with specification that includes a mobile phone connection system with Bluetooth ® functionality, a six-speaker stereo system, steering wheel mounted controls, cruise control, 17-inch alloy wheels, a USB connection with iPod control, a leather covered sports steering wheel and Black cloth interior trim.

Though the aesthetic improvements made to this Astra are subtle, they do succeed in giving it a much fresher look. The rakish three-door Astra GTC provided the inspiration for many of the aesthetic changes made to five-door versions.

Under the bonnet in Astra Excite models, Vauxhall offers a 100PS 1.4-litre and 115PS 1.6-litre petrol engines with this trim level. Alternatively, there are two diesels, a 1.6 CDTi 110PS engine or a 1.7-litre CDTi diesel unit also delivering 110PS. Both diesels are mated to six-speed manual transmissions and all powerplants offer good economy and emissions lower enough to



keep company car drivers happy. The 1.6-litre diesel option is the most frugal though delivering 76.3mpg on the combined cycle.

Vauxhall's Astra is mainly British, with hatch and estate models built at Ellesmere Port near Liverpool to a quality at least as high as anything the Japanese brands can manage. That reason alone might be enough to give this car a place on your family hatchback shortlist. Fortunately for Vauxhall, there are also many others.

To the uninitiated, the Vauxhall Corsa might seem a very ordinary car as there are plenty of them around. However, drive one and you'll realise it's anything but. Since its introduction, Vauxhall has continuously fettled and polished the Corsa, turning it from a good car into an outstanding one. Sales figures suggest that the British public know a good thing when they see one.

Quality is very strong and the superiority of some of the materials in the cabin only underscores that impression. A 285-litre boot is more than adequate for the weekly shop or a weekend away and this can be extended to 1100 litres by folding the rear seats.

The Corsa is one of most attractive cars in its class. Meriva-style 'Eagle-Eye' headlamps with chrome finish and daytime running lights are fitted and the chrome detailing also extends to the fog lights.

With three-door prices starting from £11,985 and five-door prices beginning at £12,580 Corsa Excite trim level offers particularly good value for money, especially when you consider what Vauxhall includes in the package. Mobile phone

Bluetooth ® functionality, a decent stereo system with USB connection with iPod control, steering wheel mounted audio controls, twin electrically-adjustable and heated door mirrors, front fog lights and a Graphic information display system are all featured as standard. Then there's air conditioning, electrically heated front seats and leather covered steering wheel which is also heated! Don't forget too, that you'll also get that free Vauxhall Lifetime warranty\*.

With solid build quality, sharp driving manners and some of the most economical engines on offer anywhere, the Corsa more than stacks up. It is, in fact, a very good product. Factor in prices which usually undercut far less sturdy opposition and it's a small car that needs no excuses.

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**Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 373 - 88g/km.\***

Available on selected models only, at participating Retailers. Finance subject to status. Terms and Conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Finance supplied by Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Offer will apply to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only, excluding B2B supported units). All other customers are excluded. \*\*Vauxhall Deposit Contributions vary and exclude certain models. Corsa Excite excluded from Vauxhall Deposit Contribution. Refer to [www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers](http://www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers) or contact your local Vauxhall Retailer for details. †First year insurance offer available on Corsa models (excluding Expression, S, Sting, Design and VXR). The offer will cover the full premium for drivers aged between 21-75 (motor policy only). Drivers must have held a valid full UK licence for a minimum of 1 year. Only available through Vauxhall Insurance. Policies are underwritten by Ageas Insurance Ltd. Other insurance specific Terms and Conditions apply. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and Conditions apply. Offers available on orders or registrations between 2 April and 1 July 2014. We can introduce you to a finance provider, commission may be received. #Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.





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Finance example: Renault Megane 1.9 dCi DIESEL Dynamique Convertible, Cash Price £4995, Deposit £300, Amount of credit £4695, Fixed interest rate 6.25% Flat rate, 12% APR, 60 Payments of £103 (£23.76 per week) Total amount payable £6480.00 (Excludes £150 Document fee and £150 Completion fee, Subject to status)

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**paul.rae@expressandstar.co.uk**

**3**

Post to...  
Paul Rae, Stourbridge Chronicle  
3 Market Street, Stourbridge DY8 1AB



# Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

## funeral directors

**Wombourne Funeral Services**  
3rd Generation Family Business & Monumental Masons  
24hr Personal Service  
Private Chapels of Rest  
Pre-paid Funeral Plans  
Wombourne 01902 892655  
Perton 01902 756830  
Kinver 01384 873499

## J.T. BROOKES

Independent family run Funeral Directors  
24 hour service  
Brierley Hill 01384 77098  
Kingswinford 01384 296683  
Hagley 01562 888041  
www.nedowning.co.uk

## monumental masons

**Wordsley Memorials**  
A complete monumental service  
01384 291549  
www.wordsleymemorials.co.uk

## lost & found

**LOST**  
**DARK TORTOISE SHELL CAT**

Female, microchipped as Misty but answers to crystal, lost since April 23, may have jumped in car, very friendly, much loved, Brother grieving.  
Reward for genuine information alive or dead.  
01785 840973 or 07432 080294  
Thank you.

**LOST** - Black and white young cat, looks like Felix, microchipped, Seisdon area, lost April 24. Call 01902 894131.

## religious notices

**christadelphian**

**THE DESTINY OF THE NATIONS FORTOLD IN THE BIBLE** The Failure of human governments. May 4, at 6pm, The Community Centre, High Street, Kingswinford. Or write to The Christadelphians, FREEPOST WY1681 Kingswinford DY9 9PB for free information pack or ring 01384 886544 for recorded message.

## 1 Family

## elderly & disabled

**BARGAIN, MOBILITY SCOOTER**  
Excellent condition. 4 wheels. Folds into boot. Can deliver free if local. £295.  
07508 311029.

**World of Mobility**  
NEW Electric Scooters from only £695  
Second hand from £300

**STAIRLIFTS/ELECTRIC BEDS**  
MANUAL WHEELCHAIRS FROM £110

We offer excellent customer service and aftercare on all our products.

Showroom 108C Brettell Lane, Ambloose, Stourbridge  
DY8 4BS or call 01384 378252  
OPEN MON-SAT 9-5 pm FREE PARKING AT REAR

## WREKIN STAIRLIFTS

reconditioned lifts from £799. Plus New Lifts. 01952 405397/07897 273617

## education & tuition

**CLOISTERS**  
STOURBRIDGE TUTORS Est 1992  
West Midlands Premier Agency  
Home individual tutoring  
LOCAL QUALIFIED TUTORS  
Protection of Children Act regulated and Police checked  
Primary, 11+, SATS, Secondary, GCSE, A, Deg. etc.  
0121 212 4986  
01902 671683  
www.cloistersstourbridge.co.uk  
NEW TUTORS WELCOME

## 2 Leisure Time

## bikes

**SPECIALIZED ROUBAIX COMP.**  
excellent condition, red colour, 56cm/55cm top/seat tube, £550 ono. 01384 236028.

## camping equipment

**SDMO PORTABLE GENERATOR.**  
Prestige Boost 2000. 2.1 KVA. Used twice. £325 ono. 07721 364350.

## caravans / motorhomes

**A BEAUTIFUL PARK** near Ludlow. Immaculate caravans from £10,000. Why go further? 01584 823433.

## MUST BE SEEN

**ABI WINDSOR**  
2008, luxury model, 8 berth, 2 bathroom (1 en suite), fully CH, utility room, built in double fridge freezer, cooker and hood, TV's throughout.  
Excellent condition.  
Sited at Burnham-on-Sea, excellent facilities, fishing lakes, plenty of entertainment, swimming pools.  
Pet friendly site.  
£22,000.  
07958 200659, 07507 177824.

## ATLAS OVATION SUPER

Sited between Welshpool and Newtown, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen/diner, separate living room with french doors, DG, GSH, as new.

£38,000 ono.  
01686 650970.

## AUTO SLEEPER SYMPHONY

Peugeot Boxer, 1997, tax and MOT, 2.0 petrol, fitted with a Peugeot LPG kit.  
£6,500 ono  
07810 803163 or 01902 782337.

## BESSACARR CAMEO 645GL CARAVAN

2006, luxury 4 berth, with mover and awning. Immaculate.  
Priced to sell £77,900.  
Telephone 01920 479700.

## MUST BE SEEN

**BURSTNER 645 ACTIVE FIAT 2.8 DIESEL**

Registered June 2005, 7 berth, 21,000 miles, 6 seatbelt, water heater, leisure battery, overcab bed, shower unit, blinds, fly screens, fridge, fresh/waste water tanks, cassette toilet, CD/radio, oven, hob, warm air heating, phantom alarm, 2 owners, MOT and tax till December 2014.  
£19,995.  
01562 886388  
07807 148104 (Stourbridge).

## COACHMAN PASTICHE 470 2

2005, 2 berth, end bathroom with separate shower, blinds and fly screens, full oven, fridge etc.  
Immaculate condition for year. £5,750 ono. 07551 782427.

## COMPASS RALLY GTE 500/4, 18 ft, 4 berth, 1998, top spec, end bathroom, many extras, excellent condition. £2,750 ono. 01746 783692.

## COMPASS RALLY TOP OF RANGE

17ft, 4-berth, end washroom, shower, toilet, 2005. Awning. Stunning caravan.  
£5,250  
07564 383033.

## COSALT ALBANY HOLIDAY STATIC CARAVAN

Sited at Stourport-on-Severn, on a nice, well run park with a club house.

2-bedrooms.  
6-berth.  
£8,000.

Phone for full details call  
07810 044813/07801 530894.

## FIAT DUCATO 2.8TD, 4 berth, 2003, tax and tested till October, excellent condition, any trial, £17,000 ono. 07504 398807.

## ISABELLA MAGNUM awning, carbon frame, ground sheet, aquaroll, wastemaster, wheel clamp etc. From £5,019/2745511.

## LUNA ULTIMA EB LUXURY 530/4

Fixed bed, 2005, immaculate condition, all usual luxury mod cons, inc fixed canopy, also porch awning.  
£5,800  
07889 521826.

## LUNAR METEORITE 1989 2 berth caravan. Fully equipped with a full awning. £475. Telephone: 07532 117845.

## STATIC CARAVAN BLUEBIRD

28 x 12. 2 bedroom. UPVC. Decking and double glazing. Many extras. Mid-Wales site. Great views.  
£6,995 ono.  
01902 490577 or mobile 07810 255785.

## STIRLING EUROPA 540, 6 berth, 2004, 2 awnings, mover, clean and tidy, accessories, £5,500. 01283 792497.

## SWIFT PIROUETTE 4-berth, new cassette toilet, new tyres and new awning. Ready to go. £850 or very near offer. Steve 07976 301824.

## caravans wanted

**TOURING CARAVAN** wanted, anything considered. Please telephone 07880 365757.

## sports & leisure

**JOHN LETTERS** Golf Set, graphite unifix, bag, sw, pw, 9-5 irons, 3-4 hybrids, excellent condition, little use, £125. 01902 844915.

## holidays

**ANGELSEY HOLIDAY COTTAGE**  
Stunning views, mountains and on Bird Sanctuary Estate, sleeps 4, all dates. 01407 840382 after 8pm.

## self catering holidays

**OLD CHARM** medium oak cabinet, leathered lights and sony hi-fi system, speakers, excellent condition, £150 ono. 01902 670200.

## north wales

## LLANDUDNO Glenthorne Guest House

**BBEM - Mon-Fri £175 WEEKLY SPECIAL OFFERS PARKING AVAILABLE**  
www.glenthorneguesthousellandudno.co.uk  
Phone Berwyn or Emma on 01492 879591

## caravan sales

**2 BED CARAVAN FOR SALE**  
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For more info call 07813 121678

## FOR SALE PARK HOME

Coven Heath. 1 Bedroom  
30' X 12' lovely views by canal  
£70,000 ONO  
01902 781291

## mind, body & soul

## clairvoyance

**CLAIRVOYANT JOHN STARKEY.**  
Private appointments and home visits. Call 01902 334224.

## weddings

## car hire

**A ALL YEAR DISCOUNT!** White Rolls, Cloud, Shadow & Vintage with free hire of Jaguar. 01384 236186 / 01902 887628 www.allwedding-services.magix.net

## what's on

## antique fairs

**ANTIQUE & COLLECTORS' FAIR,** Kinver Comm Centre, Sunday 4th May Est. 1979 Waverley, 0121 550 4129. Next Book Fair, Sunday 18th May.

## 3 Home & Services

## furniture

**BED SETTEE** with arm rests, blue zip on covers, model available at Ikea, very good condition £150. 01384 459480.

**FOUR FOOT Bed Settee** with arm rests, blue zip on covers, model available at Ikea, very good condition £150. 01384 459480.

## SPRING SMASH 'N' GRAB

We've Smashed the Prices, You Grab the Bargains!!  
Worcester extra value deen single was £99 now £49.50. 01656 89250. Deen Sofa Bed etc etc in fabric or faux leather was £399 now £199, ortho mats from £99, memory foam mats £99, metal fashion beds frames £39, ottoman and leather sleep beds, over 1000 mattresses, wing chairs £119, recliner chairs £199, massage/power recliners from £299, complete suites from £299. Save up to 50% on leather corner units-112 price £249, 3 seater Worford fabric sofa-clearance £149. Chams £49. Recliners leather £199. Mattresses from £29. Bank bed from £99.

## OPEN 7 DAYS SUNDAY: 10-4PM OPEN BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

BFC, Unit 9, Coneygre Rd, Burnt Tree, off Great Bridge Rd A461 Dudley, DY4 7RG. 200mtrs past Toby Carvery behind Tile Warehouse.

**0121 557 6885**

## t.v. / home entertainment

**AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS**  
Free Estimates on any TV Repairs, Plasma, LCD, SD, LED, Projection. All areas covered 8 till late. 7 days. Digital aerials, Sky installation.  
Wall mounts & TV setups.  
07850 330251

## kitchens & bathrooms

**QUADRANT SHOWER** vanity unit and toilet, cream, £200, no offers. 01902 726277 or 07719 675500.

## specialists at your service

## aerials

**AA DIGITAL AERIALS**  
1 aerial into 2 rooms  
£85  
1 aerial into 4 rooms  
£125  
All work guaranteed  
SAME DAY SERVICE  
01902 858191  
01384 429166  
01543 439095  
01922 716029  
07833 738857

## alarms/security

## PREMIER ALARMS

Supplied and Fitted £195  
Servicing and Repairs  
12 Months Warranty  
All areas covered  
All quotes beaten!  
Call: 0121 601 9791

## builders

**C & M BUILDERS** All types of building work. Extensions, general carpentry. 07 473 13586, 07463 849342.

## building services

**DAVIES & SON BUILDERS.** Extensions, loft conversions, roofing, drive-ways. See us on 'Rated People'. Call 01902 579592 / 07837 994465

## carpentry & joinery

**PINEWAY INTERIORS** Flooring, tiling, kitchens, general carpentry. Reliable service. 07738 012119.

## carpet & upholstery cleaning

## A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Recession Prices. Unbeatable Value. OAP DISCOUNT  
Call Paul: 07870 341089

## cooker fitters

**ALL COOKERS FITTED** by Bows Universal Domestic Installs. Call 0800 756 2632 or 07973 534527.

## double glazing

**UPVC BACK DOORS** from £299, front doors from £389 fitted. Windows/Fascia's, 01902 442720.

## electrical services

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## electricians

**WIZARD ELECTRICAL** Elecsa app. contractor. 07807 158711, 01384 362968/www.wizardelectrical.co.uk

## kitchens

**LOW COST KITCHENS**  
HIGH QUALITY 18mm CABINETS AS STANDARD  
SOFT CLOSE HINGES FREE OF CHARGE  
KITCHENS FROM £499 - NEVER BEATEN ON PRICE  
FREE MEASURE AND DESIGN SERVICE  
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SPEEDY KITCHENS, 29040 STREET, SHELTON, ST1 4BJ

## fencing

**Chestnut Fencing**  
Any Size Deluxe Panels  
Promotional Prices  
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For all your Patio's, Turfing, Decking, treework and Root grinding...

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Lawns cut, Borders, Garden clearances Trees lopped and shaped Fencing, Slabbing...  
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## GAS SERVICES

Boilers  
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Fires  
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Landlord Certificates  
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DISCOUNTS FOR OAPs  
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**ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Tel: 07852 172641.

## painters / decorators

## LOVE 2 WALLPAPER

Reliable & Friendly, Professional Female Painter and Decorator Quality work with competitive prices. For the Perfect Finish with minimum hassle. Plastering & Coving Work Undertaken  
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Reliable & competitive quotes. Call now: 07543 834132 / 01922 513008  
01384 940260 / 01922 263460

## AFFORDABLE Painters, Decorators, Property Maintenance. OAP's 30% off. Call 07580 275415.

## plans prepared

**ADAM DESIGN.** Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

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**P.D.P PLASTERING & TILING**  
All aspects of plastering & Tiling. reliable, professional service  
Call Pete: 07505662778  
www.pdpplastering.com

## SKIP ROOFING

Tiling work, fascias, soffits, guttering, chimney repointing. Free quotes.  
01902 580892, 07952 442017

## MG ROOFING

Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

## PREMIER ROOFING

New Roofs, Repairs, Fascias & Gutters. Call: 0121 532 7601 or 07875 387445.

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All sizes  
All areas covered  
Immediate delivery  
Competitive prices  
Fast and Reliable service  
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All general plumbing work undertaken. No job too small! Reliable and experienced plumber. Free quotes  
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Local & Distance Domestic & Commercial Competitive Prices  
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## A1 KINGSWINFORD REMOVALS & HOUSE CLEARANCES

Single items, Full houses, Offices etc  
Recession rates, FREE QUOTES  
We take the stress away  
40 years experience  
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Call Don: 0800 587 0377 or 07749 941319

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Single items to Full House Removals. 01902 894916 / 07807 773035

## ALAN, RAINBOW COURIERS

Parcelle / Pallets, Local / Distance Business/Domestic. 07884 353732

## CALL DEAN! Business/Domestic, Deliveries/Relocation/Full house 1 item 07423 453209 / 01902 830870 01384 940260 / 01922 263460.

## CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN, Removals, clearances. Items large or small. Call: 01902 741546 or 07917 679360.

## KINGSWINFORD REMOVALS

recession rates-beat any quotes, fully



## 4 Pets & Animals

pets corner

**GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS**  
All neutered, inoculated and chipped.  
Call Greyhound Trust  
01922 412212 or  
www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:  
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.  
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.  
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

**BLUE STAFFIE BITCH** 7 months, KC Reg., allergy forces sad sale. 01299 401439/07817 720441.

**BORDER COLLIE X** Labrador puppies. Black & white and tri colours. Vet checked, flea and wormed. Ready May 2. £130, small deposit will secure. 01902 256417.

**CAVAPOO PUPPIES** and Juniors £300. £350. 07867 530504 Bridgnorth.

**GUINEA PIGS**, young adult males, £5 each, females £8, reducing stock. 0121 4390235 (Tipton).

**HUSKY PUPPIES** 8 weeks, 1 dog, 1 bitch, £250 only, no offers. 07503 659196.

**KOI FOR SALE**. From 3-4 to 6-8 inch, many breeds (colours) Chagoi, Shusui, Shiro, Utsuri and more. £5 ono. 07974 042636.

**LHASA APSO x Yorkshire Terrier** puppies, vet checked, 1st vaccination, both parents can be seen, free puppy pack. 01902 270508.

**WESTIE BOY PUPPIES**, KC reg, ready now, wormed and handled by children, £400. Oswestry area. Telephone 07817 201171.

**WHIPPET DOG** Puppy, ready for loving pet home, £300, parents can be seen. 01384 896077.

guns &amp; dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

equestrian corner

**ALL READERS** are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

**GRAZING AND STABLES** to let, Lower Penn. 01902 342882 or 07802 202211.

## MUST BE SEEN

**LEYLAND FREIGHTER 1990 HGV**  
Partitioned for 5 large horses, large luton and living, cooker, sink, fridge, cupboard, wardrobe etc and lockers. Very reliable. Nine months test. Must be sold as retired owner given up HGV.  
£5,000 ono.  
07866 769269.  
Worcestershire.

## MUST BE SEEN

vets

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## 5 Business & Farming

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business opportunities

**READERS** are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

## Free Ads

**IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY**  
For items up to £250.  
Online at  
www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

## 6 Property

properties wanted

**I BUY HOUSES!**  
Local investor pays 10k more.  
Call Alex 07729 297901

## coast & country

**CHALET FOR SALE**, 6 berth, Clarch Bay holiday village, all amenities on site, 2014 fees paid, £7,000 ono. 0121 293 2381.

**CHALET FOR SALE** 6-berth, Clarch Bay holiday village, all amenities on site, £7,000 ono. 0121 293 2381.



**FOR SALE**  
**3 BEDROOM LODGE BRIGHTWATER LAKES SY21 9DL**  
Prime position, own fishing peg, newly refurbished.  
£62,500 ono,  
inc site fees till March 2015.  
All amenities on site.  
Call 07727 408770  
ginhall@btinternet.com  
photos available on request

## houses for sale



**HOLT FLEET, WORCESTERSHIRE**  
2 bedroom holiday chalet, superb quiet location. Sold as seen with furniture/fittings.  
Offers. http://goo.gl/W2FBPV  
£27,000 ono.  
07719 138408.

accommodation to let

**A GROUND** floor flat, off Stafford Rd, furnished pensioner / middle aged £80pw. 01902 238770.

**NOTICE TO READERS** It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**DUDLEY / OLDBURY** / Blackheath, 1/2 bed flat. Deposit / rent neg. 0121 550 0054. 07970 980955

**FOUR BED** Large house Bilston, new, can be shared. Price to be discussed, DSS ok. 07813 841689.

**GROSVENOR PARK** Off Penn Road. Private 1 bedroom flat to let in sheltered accommodation. 55+. Contact 07804 140488.

**ONE BED** Self contained 1st floor flat, Bradmore, £90pw. 07812 777446 or 01902 755438.

**ONE-BEDROOM** Self Contained Unfurnished flat, W'ton. Parking DSS OK. £89 pwk. 07753 351405

**PARKFIELDS**, 3 bedroom house, Whitmore Reans, 1 bed ground floor flat. 07858 628438.

**TIVIDALE / OLDBURY** 1 bed ground floor presentable flat, DSS considered. 01902 576540.

**TWO BED** semi, Bilston, near all amenities, GCH, DG, garden, £550pcm ono. 07450 855426.

**TWO BED** spacious property, Neachells Lane, DSS considered, £450 pcm. 07814 799176.

**TWO ONE BED** modernised 1st floor flats, above shops, in Featherstone. All inquiries 07885 832793.

overseas property

## BARGAIN

**FULLY RENOVATED HOUSE** In village location near Parthenay, France.

Kitchen, living room, bedroom, bathroom, loft, out building, garden and parking, all new facilities and services, fully insulated walls, roof and floors. £60,000.

Now includes all fixtures, fittings and furnishings, for immediate and comfortable occupation.  
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**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

## BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL

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Classified Ads

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**cleaners**

**HOUSE KEEPING STAFF** required at Blacklands Hotel, Bobbington, Saturday and Sunday mornings. Own transport essential. £7ph. Call 01384 221000.

**employment wanted**

**LADY BOOKKEEPER** Sage Line 50 Experience seeks part time employment. Dudley area. 01384 234119.

**engineering**

**GUILLOTINE OPERATOR** required, experience essential. CV's & covering letter to Academy Steels Ltd, Old Forge Trading Estate, Dudley Road, Lyve D9 9BL.

**nursing & carers**

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Wage is dependant on experience  
Please email CV to: highbury.house@rushcliffecare.co.uk  
Or Tel Highbury House: 01384 354455  
Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm  
We are an equal opportunities employer

**part time - general**

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£200-£2,000 pm - 0121 314 9652.  
www.bercher.info

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Wanted for delivering copies of Express & Star

**NEWS DELIVERERS**  
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# 8 Motoring

## cars over £1500

**AUDI A3**, 2.0TDI, 53 reg, pearl black, two door, tax, MoT, updated model, £3,000 ono. 07921 496008.

**BMW 330Ci**  
2001, manual, silver, black leather, 113,000 miles, lovely condition inside and out, all usual extras, MoT till Jan 2015, tax till end of July. £1800. 07713 480661. Wombourne.

**FORD FOCUS**  
1.8 diesel, 07 reg, 50k miles, alloys, tax, MoT, metallic light blue, good condition. Owned last 6 years. £3,950. 07535 698708.

**FORD FOCUS TDCI**, LX110, 56 reg, black, 120K, 9 months MoT, full tax, service history, good condition, drives nice, £2,195. 07955 587600.

**HONDA CIVIC TYPE R**, 2 litre, iVtec, 07 reg, 75k miles, fsh, 11 months tax, long MoT, immaculate condition, £8,000 ono. 07780 525892.

**HYUNDAI GETZ** 05/55 reg, diesel, 76,400 miles, red, 5-dr, MoT Sep, tax May, reversing sensors, econormie, £1,795. 07815 460696.

**HYUNDAI GETZ**, 2005, 57,500 miles, blue, electric windows, fsh, alarm, long MoT, 3 months tax, £1,800 ono. 01384 401429.

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07990 664853.

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**KIA SORENTO**, 2005, 123,000 miles, blue, electric mirrors, long MoT, diesel, tax, towbar, good condition, £3,000 ono. 01384 255546.

**MERCEDES SLK 200 Blue**, 2000, 80,000 miles, FSH, MoT, Tax, Last owner. Excellent condition. £3,600 ono. 01902 826690.

**MG ZT** 2003, Diesel, Auto, blue, alloys, MoT'd, serviced regularly, BMW engine, top spec, very good condition. £1,599. 07738 586148.

**MINI COOPER** 2001. Private reg, sunroof. Excellent condition. £2,295. 07885 772 238.

**NISSAN NOTE** 2008, full MoT, fsh, metallic blue, 94,000 miles, any trial, £3,200 ono. 01902 564264.

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£7,500.  
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**TOYOTA YARIS GS**, 2000, 52,000 miles, grey, electric windows, fsh, MoT, central locking, pas, tax. £1,850 ono. 01902 653428.

**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6**, 5 door, semi automatic, 54 reg, 48k, good condition, MoT and Tax. £1,950 ono. 07411 733865.

**VAUXHALL ASTRA ESTATE**  
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**VW POLO 1.2E** Petrol, 59 reg, black, fsh, tax, MoT, 52,000 miles, lovely condition in/out. £4,475. 01902 742699 / 07816 263797.

**ESTATE**

**VAUXHALL ASTRA ESTATE**  
57 plate, 109,000 miles, silver, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, long MoT, tax, part service history, new tyres and cambelt.  
£2,200 ono.  
07734 053518.

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2005, 160k miles, silver lightning, 17ins alloys, air con, MoT and tax to Oct, Cruise Control, good service history.  
£1,450 ono.  
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# 9 Local Information

## public & legal notices

**STANLEY MALLIN (Deceased)**  
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above mentioned deceased, late of 3 Mayfair Place Stourbridge West Midlands DY9 0XE, who died on 08/12/2013, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before 11/07/2014, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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# 10 Personals

## personal

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**Box Number P19192**, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**ANY GENUINE FEMALES**  
Halesowen male, late 50's, NS, W/LM lady 40-60 years, view to long term relationship.  
Holidays abroad, evenings in and out.

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**ATTENTION LADIES 40-55**  
Please don't pass this advert by, read on and see I'm a genuine guy.  
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W/LM Lady 65-70 for long term Relationship, days out, evenings in/out and if compatible weekend and holidays away.  
**Box Number P19194**, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**GENTLEMAN LOOKING FOR HIS LADY ROLLS ROYCE OR MINI**  
Gentleman, body and upholstery good, headlights blue, bonnet grey, 168 cm, no ash trays, previous owner with another.  
Would like to meet lady 30-43 for long MoT.  
Reply with photo (returned).  
Write Box No. P19182 (SS), Shropshire Newspapers Ltd, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV11ES

**GENUINE MALE**  
I am 35 years old, attractive, with a GSOH, seeking a similar genuine lady, 28-40, country walks and cycling, country walks and buses, nights in and out, UK and abroad holidays, I would like to share these things with a similar minded lady.  
West Midlands area.  
Photo appreciated (returned).  
**Box Number P19181**, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**LONELY LADY 70'S WIDOW**  
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**TALL GENT 64**  
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**general**

**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.



## Sykes all set for first rally of season

STOURBRIDGE'S Richard Sykes will finally start his rally season this weekend when he contests the Pirelli Carlisle RB Foundation rally.

With the cancellation of Rally North Wales, this is the opening round of the British Rally Championship (BRC).

Sykes will compete in the BRC Challenge category and, having won the championship in 2012 and finished second in 2013, he's aiming to get his title campaign off to a flying start on the Carlisle-based event.

He will again use his Citroën C2, which will be supported by Bathams Brewery and GI Sykes Ltd.

The car has undergone a major rebuild over the winter with extensive work to develop the engine.

"M-Sport have developed the Fiesta R200 rally car making it into a 200 bhp racer, so we decided to do the same thing with my C2," said Sykes.

"We have built a completely different engine."

Emma Morrison will continue in the co-driver's seat. She stood in for Simon Taylor at the end of last season after he was injured. With him taking a sabbatical, Morrison will carry on.

## Heathen legend is returning

CALIFORNIAN superstar Billy Hamill will make an emotional return to the Black Country this summer.

The Cradley Heath Speedway legend, who raced for the club between 1990-1996, is to appear at the Copthorne Hotel in Brierley Hill on Sunday, July 27 for a special evening with fans.

Hamill will be in the UK for the Monster Energy FIM Speedway World Cup.

Tickets are £10 or £25 VIP tickets which includes a private reception with Billy, signed photograph, buffet and front row seats. Tickets are available from the Cradley track shop on race night or the club shop, Printworx, Quarry Bank High Street, from 10am-3pm except Wednesday and Sunday.

# Glassboys extending training for future

## Football

STOURBRIDGE Football Club is set to expand the grass roots side of the club. They already run junior sides ranging from Under-11s up to Under-18s together with a highly successful youth side. That existing set-up is about to be increased further as the Glassboys look to add lower age groups to their ranks going right down to Under-7s.

Already the Glassboys have recruited UEFA qualified A and B coaches - many of who are ex-professional players.

Club Director and Youth Development Officer Andy Bullingham said: "We really

mean business. We want to be able to take youngsters from our lowest levels right through to the first team.

"Each team, at every level will have qualified coaches available to them - all of which will be preaching the same philosophy. Every player will have his own development plan."

"We want to educate all our youngsters both technically and tactically. We will be following the FA Four Corner Model which

combines technical, physical, psychological and social attributes. The Glassboys believe a strong junior set-up will form the bedrock of the club for years to come. They insist a strong junior set-up is vital as they look to take the Glassboys into Conference level football."

As a result, the Glassboys have appointed John Kearney as Head of The Development Centre leading to grass-root Academy links with Birmingham City.

Mr Bullingham added: "We are deadly serious about developing this side of the club and everyone involved with Stourbridge FC

has bought into this. So now we're calling on parents of talented children to get involved."

An online application for trial must be completed via the Stourbridge FC website [www.stourbridgefc.com](http://www.stourbridgefc.com) by May 13.

A presentation night will take place for successful applicants at the club's War Memorial Athletic Ground headquarters in Amblecote on May 17, when youngsters and parents can meet with manager Gary Hackett and his staff. Trials will then begin the following week, May 24.

Trials will take place local venues or at

## Players celebrate with big match

PLAYERS from Kewford Eagles' Under-17s and Under-18s marked the occasion with a celebratory football match. The players, many of whom have represented the club since they were five-years-old, were delighted as Sir Trevor Brooking CBE started the game.

Speaking at the opening, Sir Trevor said: "I am thrilled to open this impressive new facility, and delighted to see that it is being put to such good use already." "By developing facilities such as this one, the Premier League and The FA Facilities Fund is not only increasing participation at the grass-roots level of our national game but also supporting the development of home-grown talent."

The new 30-acre facility, having 11 new real grass football pitches and changing room pavilion, will significantly benefit the 550 youth footballers at Kewford Eagles, including disabled players, and the wider community.

Established in 1978, Kewford Eagles is run entirely by volunteers and was awarded the ME2 Award, the highest award given by Mencap for organisations for the disabled. The club also holds the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

# Saxons win margin simply not enough

Harrogate 19 Stourbridge Saxons 41

**THE Saxons did all that could have been asked of them, chasing a 46 point margin of victory to ensure a top two finish they were 29 points up with the bonus point secured before half time.**

But the momentum evaporated as Robbie Hurrell, Nigel Mukarati and Pete White were all forced off with injuries.

Harrogate staged an inspired second half downhill fightback and had closed the gap to an uncomfortable 10 points before late tries by replacements Sione Tu'ipolotu and Nile Dacres pulled the game beyond the host's reach.

The game at Claro Road started brightly enough, Drew Harper bagging the first try after the pack shoved Harrogate's scrum back over their own line.

He was involved when his drive from the base of a maul found a gap for White to dart through and link with Gary Dipple whose try in the corner took the Saxons past the 1,000 mark in the league season.

Captain Hurrell was forced off with a calf injury but there was no let up in the effort and the host's defence conceded another penalty, it was kicked to touch in the 22 where Ben Hughes' lineout take set up a driving maul that rumbled over with Hughes himself claiming the score.

The overcooked restart was thumped straight back into Harrogate's 22, unable to generate any momentum they coughed up pos-

## Rugby

session with an infield kick that was worked left, Stef Shillingford's pass finding Jamie Hearn who skinned the cover to score the bonus point try.

Harrogate tried to run back at them but Hughes managed to strip possession from a ball carrier, White hared through a gap in the defensive line and found Hearn to his left who bagged his second try.

Harrogate flooded the left channel and worked flanker Noel Minkin through for a try.

An off-the-ball exchange between Hughes and replacement Jacob Brady resulted in the exhaustion of referee Andrew Rawson's patience and he dismissed both. The Saxons conceded a free kick at a scrum, the hosts ran it and centre Sam Bottomley managed to evade some innocuous tackling to draw them within 10 points.

This stung the Saxons into action and they forced a series of scrums on the Harrogate line, a penalty award run quickly by replacement Tu'ipolotu who scored under the posts. The final try came from Dacres.



Saxons flanker Nigel Mukarati is brought down by the Harrogate defence.

Photo courtesy of Peter Thompson

## Tie could be classic, says Will

WILL Pottinger says Cradley's Knockout Cup tie with Mildenhall has all the makings of a classic.

The bitter rivals will clash at Monmore Green on Tuesday, May 13 - the next Heathens home meeting - with the return at West Row the following Sunday.

And Cradley boss Pottinger believes his riders will need a handy lead from the home leg to take to Mildenhall.

"Anyone who follows the sport knows there is history between the two clubs and we're looking forward to the meetings," said Pottinger.

"Mildenhall have built a very impressive team once again this season and we know we will need to be firing on all cylinders."

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# SPORT

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was not enough  
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email: Chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

## Rain-hit opener ends in defeat

**Leamington Spa 1st 208 Stourbridge 148-9 (Leamington Spa win 24 points)**  
STOURBRIDGE suffered defeat in the opening fixture of the season away to Leamington Spa in a match curtailed by April showers.

The home side lost two early wickets but recovered to post 208 in their allocated 50 overs. The visitors needed to score 160 off 29 overs because 90 minutes were lost due to weather.

Stour skipper Richard Bradley won the toss and elected to a bowl. The decision was rewarded immediately Ali Shah claiming the wicket of Shahbaz Alam caught behind for seven. Shah then caught and bowled David Bailey for two.

Spa rallied before debutant paceman Bilal Hassan took four wickets for 47.

The home side made the brightest of starts, Grant Thornton trapping Alex Bingham LBW with an unplayable yorker for a golden duck.

Needing to score at a rate of six an over Stour fought on bravely through the skipper and Andy Alexander before the latter was out for 27.

Two run-outs, Bradley for 20 and Josh Banks, 39, did not help the cause and the opposition cruised to victory as Stour stumbled, running out of overs.

## Sir Trevor in big unveiling

FOOTBALLING legend Sir Trevor Brooking CBE visited Dudley to officially unveil a stunning new grassroots sports facility that has been developed thanks to a £800,000 grant from the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund.

The former England midfielder, and the current Director of Football Development at The FA, unveiled the new site on behalf of Kewford Eagles FC.

The club were awarded the huge sum by the Football Foundation, which manages the Premier League and The FA Facilities Fund.

The grant of £800,000 is more than double the average grant size which has been awarded by the Football Foundation and has made up for 74 per cent of the total project cost.

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## DK end their miserable season without a win

**DK 0 Leicester Lions 74**  
THE final game of the season, with nothing at stake for either side, was probably the worst performance of the season by DK.

The game kicked off in heavy rain and during the early exchanges, DK came out slightly on top of what was a kicking duel. However, the visitors with their heavier forwards began to dominate the set pieces.

The pressure they began to exert resulted in DK giving away a penalty in front of their own posts in the 15th minute. Full back John Bowden opened the scoring with an easy kick. There then followed an even

**Rugby**  
passage of play contested between the two 22 metre lines.

The deadlock was eventually broken in the 39th minute when DK were penalised. The visitor's kicked to the corner close to the DK line and from the resulting line out, the ball was recycled to the Leicester three quarters and fly half Adam Green-dale carved an opening to score close to the posts. John Bowden was successful in adding the conversion.

Within four minutes, the visitors ex-

tended their lead when centre Steve Cross brushed aside some poor DK tackling to touch down under the posts. John Bowden duly added the extra points.

There was a telling blow when Donovan Smile was yellow carded for foul play. The one man advantage quickly told when in the third minute of injury time wing Luke Veebel crossed for a try. John Bowden was unable to add the additional two points.

Regrettably the second half performance of DK proved to be the worst 40 minutes of the whole season. From the opening game back in September, although losing every

game, the resilience and 'never say die' attitude of the young players of DK always shone through but unfortunately straight from the kick off of the second half the home side completely capitulated.

Within the space of 26 minutes the visitors ran in four tries by Jack Gibbons, Matt Tuckee, Adam Greendale and Dan Campbell. Three of which were converted by John Bowden. In an attempt to curtail the Leicester onslaught DK made several changes.

However, these changes proved to have little effect as during the final 14 minutes the visitors ran in a further three tries.

## It's title delight for Yeltz

**Belper Town 0 Halesowen Town 2**  
HALESOWEN Town lifted the Evo-Stik Division One South championship trophy after Ben Haseley's brace capped a spirited team performance at Christchurch Meadow.

With rivals Coalville Town winning at Chase-town, the Yeltz had to win to make sure of the title, and it was fitting that 39-goal leading striker Haseley should come up with the goods.

Halesowen weathered an early onslaught from fourth-placed Belper with Jon Froggatt's sixth-minute effort cannoning off the Yeltz crossbar.

But league leaders Halesowen stuck to their game plan and dared to dream after snatching a stylish 20th-minute lead with their first chance.

Neil MacKenzie found Iyseden Christie down the right and he played the ball for Haseley to turn in the penalty area and fire in.

The title started heading home to Halesowen when Haseley pounced from a yard out to double the lead with his 39th goal of the season in the 71st minute.

## Langley strike is a Hayes lifeline

**Gornal Athletic 1 Heath Hayes 2**

FROM the off, Gornal made their intentions clear with some robust challenges.

Hayes opened the scoring on 21 minutes when Adam Green to fired home.

Hayes started the second half well as Adam Langley scored. A Dreniz Bala goal gave his side hope.

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# GLASSBOYS MAKE IT TO PLAY-OFFS

**Hitchin Town 1 Stourbridge 1**  
THE Glassboys squeezed into the Premier Division play-offs with a draw at Hitchin sufficient for Gary Hackett's men to hold on to fifth place in the final standings.

Stourbridge began brightly at Top Field, and

could have forged in-front on six minutes after Ben Billingham stood up a cross from the right-hand side of the box towards Kayelden Brown, but he glanced his header wide.

Ten minutes later however, the Glassboys broke the deadlock with a long goal-kick from Dean Coleman being headed on by Brown for Brian Smikle to sprint on to the ball and shoot low under the advancing home keeper Tahj Bell from the edge of the area.

### Capitalised

The visitors failed to kick on from there though. Hitchin began to come more into the game as the half progressed.

On 28 minutes Coleman got safely behind a 20-yard shot from Callum Donnelly and then at the other end Smikle almost capitalised on some hesitant defending as he chased a ball forward from Sean Geddes through the right channel area with Hitchin's Daniel Webb and as they jostled for the ball, Smikle managed to wrap his foot around Webb and hook a shot goal-wards that

### Football

flew off-target. Hitchin responded in the 31st minute with a curling free-kick from Charlie Smith that landed on the top of Coleman's goal-net and then a good passage of play for the Hertfordshire hosts saw a Matt Lench free-kick on 38 minutes deflect off the head of Geddes in the wall and drop onto the roof of the net and then from the resulting right-wing flag-kick by Donnelly, Webb got in a header at the far post that hit the bar and rebounded into play for Stuart Pearson, but his effort was palmed away by Coleman before the Glassboys scrambled the ball out of harm's way.

With 65 minutes gone, Stourbridge were pegged back with Nick Burtenshaw sending in a cross from the right that bobbled around a crowded penalty area before sub Michael King stabbed a shot on-target that Coleman got a hand to, but he couldn't keep out.

With the Glassboys struggling to find another gear and raise their game again, Hitchin almost grabbed a second in the 76th minute, but Gary Hackett's men held out.



Kayelden Brown heads just wide for Stourbridge as Hitchin keeper, Tahj Bell, is beaten

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